To the Most Honourable,

THE

# Lady Marchioness

OF

# NORMANBY.

BY *the Death of our late* Queen *of Blessed Memory, as* England *lost the Best* Princess, *so I lost the most Generous* Patro-

neſs *in the World*: *Mine was a double* Misfortune, *and She dy'd but as Yeſterday to me, tho' others may reckon ſome Years ſince the* Nation *was in Mourning for that deplorable* Calamity. *Something, however, I have at laſt to alleviate this Grief, tho' nothing*

*nothing can wholly efface it*; *the* Queen's *Dead, but the* Marchioneſs *of* Normanby *Lives*; *and I doubt not but I ſhall be envy'd the rare Happineſs of Two ſuch* Patroneſſes. *I muſt confeſs,* Madam, *that it is not the* Grandeur *of your* Birth,

*or*

*or your* Fortunes, *that can raiſe my Veneration: Thoſe you poſſeſs in common with ſome few others, even* Beauty *itſelf, muſt die, nor is* Wit *itſelf, whatever we fanſie, Immortal. That Prerogative is only granted to* Piety *and* Virtue, *they are the only Eſtates*

*Eſtates which laſt for ever and ever. By theſe are you diſtinguiſh'd from the Crowd of the World, the great and the ſmall Vulgar, more than by your* Fortunes *and* Honours: *May you ever increaſe in theſe, and conſequently in Happineſs, till both are*

*con-*

*conſummated in a better World. Towards which, if theſe mean Papers may be any ſmall Advantage, he has his End, who is*

With all Humility

and Reſpect,

Your Ladyſhip's

Chaplain and Servant,

SAM. WESLEY.

# PREFACE
## TO THE
# *READER.*

READER,

I Have but little to ſay concerning this ſmall Preſent which I here make thee. 'Tis ſome Account of the Intervals of my Time, which I wiſh had never been worſe employ'd. There are ſome Paſſages here repreſented which are ſo barren of Circumſtances, that it was not eaſy to make them ſhine in Verſe; tho' neither could they be ſo well omitted, without breaking the Thread of the Hiſtory: As for theſe, I hope that old Excuſe will be allow'd me, *Ornari res ipſa negat*, &c. But there are others where I have more Liberty, wherein it is my own Fault or Misfortune if I have not ſucceeded better.

better. On the whole, if ought that's here may be uſeful to any good Chriſtian, and any ways tend to promote Piety, I ſhall be better pleas'd than if I could have compos'd a Book on any other Subject, worthy to be dedicated in the *Vatican:* For I hope I am got on the right ſide of the World, and am as indifferent to that, as that can be to me; which I have endeavour'd to expreſs in one of *Jerom Vida's*, *Good and pious Prayer's directed ill*, (with which I ſhall take my leave of thee) addreſs'd by him to St. *Stephen* the *Proto-Martyr*, but I have taken the Liberty to turn it to him whom that Saint ſaw *ſtanding on the Right-Hand of God.* The Lines are as follow;

——— *Aſpice præſens,*
*Da fraudis ſceleriſque exortem ducere vitam,*
*Da contemnere opes, & vulgi gaudia, honores,*
*Et caſto uſque tuis operari pectore Sacris!*

*Thus imitated.*

With Eyes of Pity, Saviour! me ſurvey,
Be preſent to my Vows, and hear me when I pray;

Grant

Grant me a Life from great Offences free,
And ſuch as mayn't diſgrace thy Truths and Thee:
Give to contemn the Miſer's uſeleſs Store,
And Honours which the cheated World adore!
Pure be my Breaſt from Malice or Deceit,
And thus, thus let me at thy Altars wait;
Till from thy dear-lov'd Temple I remove,
And joyn the happier bliſsful Quire above.

THE

THE

# THE HISTORY OF THE Holy Bible,

*In Verſe, with Sculptures.*

# I.

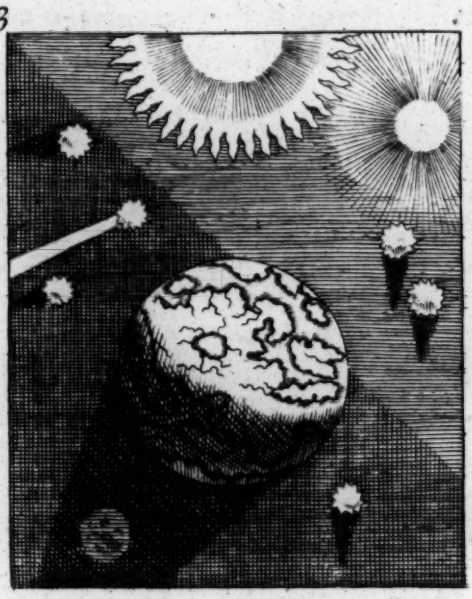
## *The* CREATION.

IN the *Beginning did th' All-High create*
The Heav'n and Earth, He ſpake and made it Fate:
Aroſe the *Embryo-Earth*, unform'd and Waſt,
By old coëval *darkneſs* round embrac'd:
Let there be *Light*, ſaid GOD; The *Light obey'd*,
And blaz'd with cheerful *Beams* amid the *Shade*;
Thence rolling round produc'd the *Firſt* bright *Day*,
While gloomy *Night* her own ſad Realms obey.
The vaſt *Expanſe* above was next diſplay'd,
The reſtleſs *Seas*, and ſolid *Earth* were made:
*Earth*, in her various-colour'd *Mantle* dreſs'd,
Each *Tree*, each *Herb*, creating Pow'r confeſs'd.
Behold the *Sun*'s fair Lamp which rules the *Day*!
The *Moon*, which ſhines ſerene with borrow'd Ray,
High in Mid-Heav'n, and with her *Starry*-Train
O'r ſolemn *Night* renews her peaceful *Reign*.
Next ſee the *Fowls* thro' Air's wide Ocean fly,
And ſcaly *Fiſh* cut the low liquid *Sky*!
Th' Almighty call'd, and various *Creatures* come
At his Command from Earth's prolific Womb:
Then *Man* in his own Image *made* and *bleſs'd*,
And pleas'd with all his *Works*, from all his Works did reſt.

Geneſis,

# I.

## GENESIS, Chap. I. to Ver. 14.



1. *In the beginning God created the heaven and earth.*
3. *And said, Let there be light: and there was light.*
6. *Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.*
9. *Let the waters be gathered together, and let the dry-land appear.*
11. *Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit-tree yeilding fruit,* &c.
14. *Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven, to divide the day from the night,* &c.

## II.

## PARADISE, *the Creatures nam'd, the Woman form'd.*

SUch was the Worlds *Creation*, ſuch the Birth
Of all the various Tribes of Heav'n and Earth:
Nor *Herb* nor *Plant* that *voluntary* grew,
Sweet *Rain* as yet was none, nor kindly *Dew*.
Can *Duſt-born Men* be *proud* or vain, who know
From whence they *come*, and whither doom'd to *go*?
Or can they ought that's *mean*, when God has ſet
A *Jewel* in their earthly *Cabinet*?
A *Soul*, of heavenly Seed, of *Angel*-kind,
And marry'd *Matter* with *Immortal Mind*?
In friendly *Pairs* the mute Creation came,
*Homag'd* their Lord, and each receiv'd its *Name*:
To *Man* alone no *Like* or *Second* found
Of all that *ſwim* in *Air*, or *graze* the *Ground*:
Nor muſt his *Life* run waſt, by Heav'n deſign'd
To plant the World, and propagate his *Kind*:
Thence, from his *Side*, what can't th' Almighty doe?
He moulds a *Female-Man*, of Heavn'ly hew:
The Strokes, than *His*, leſs *bold*, but far more *fine*,
Softer each *Touch*, and gentler every *Line*,
Tho both, confeſs'd, the *Work* of Hands divine.
Nor left to range, a lovely *Garden* made,
The *Bride* and *Bridegroom* thither He convey'd:
The Makers Hands adorn'd that happy Place,
With *Colonies* of all th' *Arboreal* Race;

Thro'

Thro' whoſe bleſs'd *Shades* a *Cryſtal River* glides,
And thence in *Four* capacious *Streams* divides.
Such was the *bliſful Bow'r* our Sire enjoy'd,
Till *Eve*, and the curs'd *Serpent* him deſtroy'd.
---Yet ſtill we *haunt* the *Streams*, and *ſilent Grove*,
And our dear *Native-Gardens* ſtill we love;
And ſtill we *hope*, nor hope perhaps in vain,
At length thoſe *Happy Manſions* to regain.
--- "O when! -- It now grows near - *Life's Tempeſt* or'e,
"With what loud joyful *Shouts* I'd hail the *welcome Shore*!

## GENESIS, Chap. II. from Ver. 4. to Ver. 22.

v. 4. *Theſe are the Generations of the Heavens and of the Earth, when they were created* &c.

5. *And every Plant of the Field, before it was in the Earth,* &c.

7. *And the Lord God formed Man of the duſt of the Ground, and breathed into his Noſtrils the Breath of Life.*

8. *And the Lord God planted a Garden,* &c.

19. *And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beaſt of the field, and every fowl of the air,* &c.

20. *And* Adam *gave names to all cattel, and to the fowl of the air,* &c.

21. *The Lord God cauſed a deep ſleep to fall upon Adam: and he took one of his Ribs,* &c.

22. *And the Rib which he had taken from Man,* &c.

## III.

### *The Serpents Temptation, the Fall of our First Parents.*

O *Happy-Pair!* -- But Ah! how *ſhort* your *Bliſs?*
How ſoon the *Foe* has enter'd *Paradiſe!*
A creſted *Serpents* ſpeckled Form he wears,
In Miſchief skill'd his *Guileful Arts* he ſhares:
Where is the *Guard* of *Seraphs*, that ſecures
Endanger'd *Nature*'s tott'ring *Fate*, and yours?
-- You *make* your *Fate*: ſtand now, you always ſtand!
The *Terms* of *Life* are no ſevere Command:
That *Tree*, that *deadly Tree* alone forbear,
The reſt with *Bleſſing*, and with welcome ſhare.
-- 'Tis paſs'd, the *Serpent* has on *Eve* prevail'd:
Strengthned with ſuch *Allies* he rarely fail'd:
She *eats*, ſhe gives our *Sire*, it *pleas'd* his Eyes,
The tempting *Flavor* pleas'd, he *taſts*, he *dies*.
*Groan'd* the Creation, ſhook the *Poles*; and all
*Convulſive Nature* trembled at their *Fall*.
Hence all thoſe *Ills* which God's fair Work deface,
Hence *Sin*, and *Death*, and *Pain* entail'd on all their Race.

II. Gene-

## II.

## GENESIS, Chap. III. to Ver. 14.



V. 1. *Now the Serpent was more ſubtil than any Beaſt of the Field, and ſaid to the Woman, yea, hath God ſaid, ye ſhall not eat of every Tree of the Garden?* &c.

6. *And when the Woman ſaw that the Tree was good for Food, and that it was pleaſant to the Eyes, and a Tree to be deſir'd to make one wiſe, ſhe took of the Fruit thereof and did eat, and gave alſo to her Husband with her, and he did eat,* &c.

IV.

## IV.

## Adam *and* Eve *driven out of* Paradiſe.

FArewel ye lovely *Groves* and peaceful *Shades*,
Thoſe happy *Regions* which no *Storm* invades!
Th' *Offenders*, to a *ruin'd World* muſt go,
And ſhare a ſad *Variety* of *Woe*.
In vain the *Man* does his weak *Conſort* blame,
And on the tempting *Serpent*, *Eve* exclaim:
Our *Sire*, his *Life* in *Sorrow* doom'd to wear,
Our *Mother* muſt with *Pangs* and *Torments* bear.
Th' accurſed *Serpent*, now no longer *crown'd*,
*Erect* no more, but *groveling* on the *Ground*;
Amid the *Duſt* he *trails* his Length of *Train*,
And rears *Breaſt-high* his ſpotted *Form* in vain.
The *Womans Seed* his guileful *Head* ſhall *bruiſe*,
The Servile *Chains* of ranſom'd *Mortals* looſe.
Th' *Eternal* thus, who did their *Doom* declare
With *Mercy* mix'd, nor leaves 'em all *Deſpair*:
--- But the ſad *Moment*'s come, they muſt away,
For angry *rolling Flames* forbid their ſtay:
With *Shame* and *Bluſhes* never known before
Fair *Eden* they forſake --- An *Angel* guards the Door.

## III.

### GENESIS, Chap. III. Ver. 12. to the laſt.

9



V. 12. *The Man ſaid, the Woman gave me of the Tree and I did eat.*

13. *The Woman ſaid the Serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.*

14. *The Lord God ſaid unto the Serpent, upon thy belly ſhalt thou go,* &c.

16. *Unto the Woman he ſaid, I will greatly multipiy thy Sorrow and thy Conception,* &c.

17. *To Adam he ſaid, curſed be the Ground for thy ſake,* &c.

24. *So he drove out the Man, and he plac'd at the Eaſt of the Garden of* Eden, Cherubims, &c.

V.

## V.

## CAIN *and* ABEL.

HOW ſoon the *Ruins* of the *World* begin!
How ſoon 'tis all *deform'd* by *Death* and *Sin!*
Their *Crime* and *Curſe* our *Parents* ſoon are ſhown,
And in their *Offſprings* Fate they read their *own:*
*Two Sons* they had, and both, as taught, prepare
T' attone high Heav'n with *Sacrifice* and *Pray'r.*
Their *Elder* harſh, and fell, his Savage Mind
To darling *Miſchief* and to *Blood* inclin'd;
*Churliſh*, as was th' ungrateful *Soil* he tore,
Which *Corn* with *Thiſtles* mix'd, and *Darnel* bore:
Not ſo the *Younger*, in whoſe *Eyes*, and *Mind*
*Modeſty* ſat enthron'd, and *Virtue* ſhin'd:
His *Fleecy Houſhold*, *Innocent* as they,
His *Joy* to *fold* by Night, and *feed* by Day,
And then the *faireſt* on the *Altar* lay:
The *lighteſt Sheaf* he found, his *Brother* brought,
And murm'ring, that, *too good for Heav'n* he thought.
See a bright *Flame* deſcending from the *Skies*
*Conſume* the righteous *Abels Sacrifice*;
His *Brother's* wrapp'd in angry *Clouds* and *Smoke*,
Which from th' affronted *Throne* in *Thunder* broke.
Nor this, enrag'd, *malignant Cain*: "If theſe
"*Refus'd*, what next I *offer*, Heav'n ſhall pleaſe.
See his juſt *Brother* proſtrate on the *Plain*,
His *Hands*, his *Eyes* for Mercy plead in vain:
O ſpare the *guiltleſs Youth!* --- Too late -- He's
*Slain*, He's *Slain.*

IV.

# IV.

## GENESIS, Chap. IV. from Ver. 2. to 8.



v. 2. Abel *was a keeper of ſheep, but* Cain *was a tiller of the ground.*

3. Cain *brought of the fruit of the ground an offering to the Lord.*

4, 5. *And* Abel *he alſo brought of the Firſtlings of his Flock and of the Fat thereof; And the Lord had reſpect unto* Abel *and to his Offering, but unto* Cain *and to his Offering he had not reſpect.*

8. Cain *roſe up againſt his Brother, and ſlew him.*

VI.

## VI.

## CAIN's *Punishment.*

THUS impious *CAIN unveil'd the first sad Scene,*
And taught his *mournful Sire* what *Death did mean:*
*Where is thy Brother,* GOD in *Thunder* cries;
*I neither know nor care,* the *Churl* replies.
Am I *his Keeper,* that thou me dost *charge?*
My *Fields* are *narrow,* but his *Walks* are *large:*
O *Wretch,* he cries, thy *Crimes* thou canst not hide;
In vain to him, who *all things sees, deny'd:*
What *hast thou done?* From *Earth* unto the *Skies*
Thy murder'd Brother's *Blood* for *Vengeance* cries:
*Accurs'd* art thou, and *Earth* thy *Curse* shall *bear;*
The *barren Soil ungrateful* to thy *Care.*
*Trembling* and *fearful* thou in vain shalt *run*
From *Man's dear Face. Thy self* thou canst not *shun.*

When thus the *moody Murd'rer* in Despair
" My *Punishment* I *cannot, will not bear.*
" I'm from my *Father's Pious House* disjoyn'd,
" And *banish'd* from the *Face of Human-Kind.*
" If any me a *helpless Exile* find,
" They soon the *trembling Fugitive* will slay,
" Or he to wild and ravenous *Beasts* a *Prey.* No

" No -- thou thy *hated Life* a while ſhalt *bear*,
" And my juſt *Vengeance* to the *World* declare:
Th' *Almighty anſwers* -- " I my ſelf will place
" The *dreadful Stains of Murther* on thy Face,
" That all may ſhun thy *Crimes* and *Fate*. -- He ſaid,
The *Caitiff* heard, with *ghaſtful Looks* he fled,
And oft he *turns* his *guilty Eyes* behind,
And *ſtarts* at every *noiſe*, and *Breath of Wind*:
His *guilty Eyes* and *ghaſtful Looks* confeſs'd
The *ſecret helliſh Pain* that gnaw'd his *anxious Breaſt*.

---

## GENESIS, Chap. IV. from Ver. 9. to 14.

9. *The Lord ſaid unto* Cain, *where is* Abel *thy brother? and he ſaid, I know not: am I my brothers keeper?*

10. *And he ſaid, what haſt thou done? the voice of thy brother's bloud crieth unto me from the ground.*

11. *And now art thou curſed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's bloud from thy hand.*

12. *When thou tilleſt the ground, it ſhall not henceforth yield unto thee her ſtrength. A fugitive and a Vagabond ſhalt thou be in the earth.*

13. *And* Cain *ſaid unto the Lord, my puniſhment is greater than I can bear*, &c.

VII.

## VII. *The* Ark *and* Flood.

NOR *this* nor *Cain*'s, nor *Lamech*'s *Blood ſuffice*,
To purge a *guilty World* orewhelm'd in *Vice*:
The Wicked *Seed* prevail, their *monſtrous Race*
With *Rapes* and *Murthers* cover Earths ſad Face:
*Noah* alone his Innocence retain'd,
Of Millions, only *Noah*, *Juſt*, remain'd
And *ſtemm'd* a *World*; nor this to him unknown
Who all ſurveys from his Celeſtial *Throne*:
His injur'd *Patience* wou'd no longer wait,
His *Juſtice ſeals* the hardned Rebels Fate;
But *righteous Noah* he reſolves to ſpare,
And bids him a *capacious Ark* prepare
T' embark the *future World*, and *ſave* it there.
Of every *Species*, thus had Heav'n enjoyn'd,
Of either *Sex*, ſtill to preſerve the *Kind*
He to the *Ark* conveys, of all that *breath*,
And reſcues from th' approaching *Watry Death*.
--- Which now from injur'd angry *Heav'n* deſcends,
While the vex'd *Earth* with dire *Convulſions* rends:
And *Old Abyſs*, which round the *Center* lay
Reveals her hidden *Stores* to wondring Day:
*Rivers* their Banks, the *Sea* forgets her *Shore*
Her *Waves* by God's *Decree* reſtrain'd no more:
Higher the *Waters* climb, and ſtill more high,
To *Trees* and *Hills* in vain the *Wretches* fly,
For only there a ſhort *Reprive* they found,
The *Trees* and lofty *Hills* themſelves are drown'd:
Whatever *breath'd* is loſt; in Oceans *Caves*
Their *Bodies* whelm'd, or floating on the *Waves*:
*Noah*, the *Univerſal Wreck* ſurvives,
By the Great *Pilot* ſteer'd, his feeble *Veſſel* lives.

V.

# V.

## GENESIS, Chap. VI. Ver. 4. Chap. VII. to the End.



vi. 5. *God ſaw that the wickedneſs of man was great in the earth.*

7. *And the Lord ſaid I will deſtroy Man, whom I have created.*

8. *But* Noah *found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*

14, 19. *And God ſaid, make thee an* Ark *of* Gopher-wood. --- *Of every living thing of all fleſh, two of every ſort ſhalt thou bring into the* Ark.

vii. 10, 21. *The Waters of the flood were upon the earth - And all fleſh died that moved upon the earth.*

VIII.

## VIII.

### *The Flood ceaſes,* Noah *goes out of the* Ark, *and ſacrifices, God's Promiſe to him.*

AND now *Almighty Goodneſs* calls to Mind
The poor *Remains* of Nature, long confin'd
Within their *floating Vault*; The Floods decreaſe
At his Command; tumultuous *Whirlwinds* ceaſe,
And all the jarring *Elements* are *Peace.*
See from the *teeming Ark* a Second Birth
Deſcending to renew the *deſert Earth!*
Birds, Reptiles, Beaſts in friendly *Pairs* are joyn'd,
The ſame the *Godlike Race* of ſav'd *Mankind:*
*Noah*, their *Prince* and *Father* them conveys,
Then does of *Living Turf* an *Altar* raiſe,
And to their kind *Preſerver* kneels and prays.
Two of the faireſt *Birds*, and *Beaſts* he gave
To him who *them*, and all the reſt did *ſave*;
But chiefly did a *grateful Heart* preſent:
Up to high Heav'n the *pleaſing Odour* went,
Thus ſpake th' *Almighty Sire*, and ſhook the *Firmament*:
" While *Time* remains, and theſe fair *Orbs* ſhall roll,
" While *Earth* its *Center* knows, or *Heav'n* the *Pole*,
" Shall *Nature* now her *ſteddy Courſe* purſue
" Alternate *Seaſons* ſhall the World renew.
" Ye cheerful *Days* your conſtant *Walk* maintain.
" And, O ye *Nights*, aſſert your peaceful *Reign!*
" *Spring*, *Summer*, *Autumn*, *Winter*'s hoary Face
" Each other ſtill ſucceed in Time's revolving Race!

VI.

# VIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. VIII. Ver. 3. 18. to the End.




V. 3. *The waters return'd from off the earth, and the Ark reſted on the mountains of Ararat.*

18. *And* Noah *went forth, and built an Altar to the Lord, and offer'd, &c. and the Lord ſmelt a ſweet ſavour, and ſaid, I will not again curſe the ground any more for man's ſake, &c.*

*While the earth remains ſeed-time, and harveſt ſummer and winter ſhall not ceaſe.*

## IX.

### *God renews his Covenant with* Noah. *Forbids murder. The Rainbow.*

AS thoſe who ſcap'd from *Shipwrack*, trembling ſtand,
And view the *Billows* from the diſtant Land:
*Fear* and *Diſtraction* drawn in every Face:
So look'd our *Second Sire*, and all his Race.
*Earth* to *repleniſh*, what *Delight or Joy*,
Which wrathful *Heav'n* might ſoon agen deſtroy,
Or numerous *Beaſts* their feeble Race orepow'r,
Or lawleſs *Force*, and mutual wounds devour?
But that *Almighty Love* which knows no bound
Provides a ſpeedy *Cure* for every *Wound:*
Give to the *Winds* your cauſleſs *Fears*, he ſaid,
Not *You* the *Beaſts*, but they their *Lords* ſhall dread:
The *Kingly Lion* at your ſight ſhall flie,
Fierce *Wolves*, and ſpotted *Pards* glare trembling by:
*Murder* and Thirſt of *Blood* ſhall *Laws* reſtrain:
Who *ſlays another ſhall himſelf be ſlain.*
*Love*, and *increaſe!* your numerous *Sons*, diſperſe,
And *Colonize* the ſpacious *Univerſe.*
If you a *Second Deluge* vainly fear,
Look up and ſee this friendly *Token* here;
This *radiant Bow* which in the *Clouds* I place,
Nor more ſhall *Floods* deſtroy your new reviving Race.

# IX.

## GENESIS, Chap. IX. Ver. 1. to 13.

19



1. *And God bleſſed* Noah *and his ſons, and ſaid unto them be fruitful and multiply, and repleniſh the earth.*

2. *And the fear of you, and the dread of you ſhall be upon every beaſt of the earth,* &c.

6. *Whoſo ſheddeth man's blood, by man ſhall his blood be ſhed.*

13. *I do ſet my bow in the cloud, and it ſhall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth,* &c.

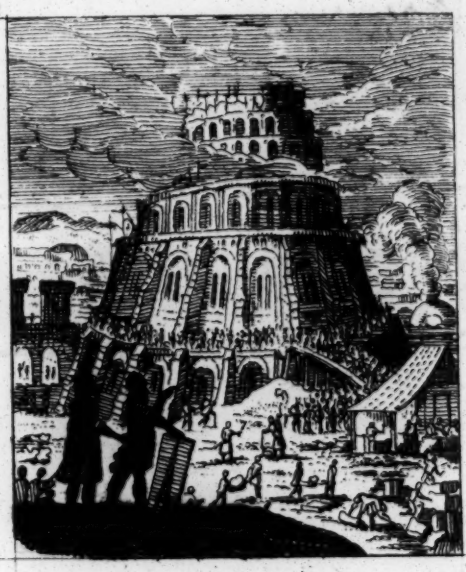
## X.

### *The Tower of* Babel. *The Confuſion of Languages.*

THE Sons of *Noah*, by their Saviour bleſs'd,
Renew *Mankind*, to num'rous *Tribes* incres'd:
From lofty *Ararat* they now deſcend,
And with the *Sun*, their Guide, ſtill *Weſtward* bend:
Their *Language* and their *Dialect* the ſame,
To *Shinars* fruitful *Plain* they journying came.
Vain of their *Strength* (but what is *Strength* in *Man*?
A vaſt Attempt they in *Ill-Hour* began.
See where the *Tow'ry Walls* of *Babel* riſe
And *threaten*, and almoſt *ſurmount* the *Skies!*
What *Hills* on *Hills* the buſy *Piſmires* caſt,
What *fruitleſs* Care, and unavailing Haſt!
*Diſtracted men*! Is this, is this the way
To reach the *Confines* of eternal *Day!*
Or did you theſe *ſtupendious Buildings* frame
To boaſt your *Pow'r*, or *aggrandize* your *Name*?
Alike in vain! Behold th' *Almighty* ſmile
At your *Attempts*, and *blaſt* your impious *Pile!*
*Confus'd* your *Dialect*, you all *diſperſe*
In various *Tribes* around the *Univerſe*.
And ſhou'd a *Second Nimrod* proudly riſe,
And *reaſſume* your *War* againſt the *Skies*;
*Kingdoms* on *Kingdoms* pile to raiſe his *Throne*,
Or waſt the trembling *World* to reign *alone*:
With equal *Eaſe* can *Heav'n* his *Pride* confound,
And lay his *ſhor.-liv'd Babel* ſcatter'd on the ground.

# X.

## GENESIS, Chap. XI. Ver. 1. to 9.



v. 1. *The whole earth was of one language, and of one ſpeech.*

4. *And they ſaid, let us build us a city and a tower, whoſe top may reach unto heaven,* &c.

7. *The Lord ſaid, Let us confound their language, that they may not underſtand one anothers ſpeech.*

8. *So the Lord ſcattered them abroad upon the face of all the earth.*

## XI.

### Abram *and* Lot *part.* *The* Aſſyrian *Kings defeated.* Abram's *Congreſs with* Melchiſedec.

FROM *Harans* Fields to *Canaan Abram* went
And in the *Plains* of *Moreh* pitch'd his Tent:
His wealthy Nephew *Lot*, he with him bears,
*His* God he *worſhips* and his Fortunes *ſhares:*
Their *Subſtance* great, their *Flocks* and *Herds* ſo large
When joyn'd they the *depaſtur'd Land* orecharge:
But *Lot* removes to where fair *Jordan* falls,
And *graz'd* his Flocks by *Sodoms* impious walls;
Too near *Ill-Neighbours* whom a *Vengeance* waits
Worthy their *Crimes*, almoſt he *ſhar'd* their *Fates:*
For raging War, and *Thirſt* of *Blood* begins,
*Treaties* are broke, and *Sins* are plagu'd with *Sins.*
Fierce *Chedorlaomer* his *Vaſſals* arms
And o'r *Phœnicia* pours unumber'd Swarms:
Luxurious *Sodoms* Prince reſiſts in vain,
With *Fire* and *Blood* they cover all the *Plain:*
Among the Captives, *Lot*; when *Abraham* knew
With his *Allies* he to his Reſcue flew:
Heav'n on his ſide engag'd; the *Victors* fled,
And their *Captivity* he *captive* led:
On whoſe *Return* thro' *Shaveh's* royal Dale
Grateful *Refreſhments* his tir'd Hoſt *regale:*
The Great *Melchizedech*, of Race unknown,
*Who* wore a *Miter*, tho' he fill'd a *Throne*,
To Heav'ns *Ally* did theſe kind *Preſents* bring,
Himſelf a wondrous *Prophet*, *Prieſt*, and *King.*
Low at his *Feet* did the glad *Patriarch* fall,
His *Bleſſing* there receiv'd, and gave him *Tythes of all.*

# IX.

## GENESIS, Chap. XII. 5. 6. XIII. 5. 6. 11. 12. XIV. 1. 11. to the End.

23



Chap. xii. ver. 5. Abram *went forth into the land of* Canaan *to the plain of* Moreh.

xiii. 5. Lot *alſo who went with* Abram *had flocks, and herds, and tents. And the land was not able to bear them.*

12. Abram *dwelt in* Canaan, *and* Lot *in the plain toward* Sodom.

17. *After his return from the ſlaughter of* Chedorlaomer, *&c.* Melchiſedec *king of* Salem *brought forth bread and wine,* &c. *And he gave him tithes of all.*

## XII.

### Hagar *flies from her Miſtreſs. An Angel comforts her.*

GOOD *Servants* ſhall their Maſters *Bleſſing* ſhare,
Ev'n wandring *Hagar*'s worth an *Angel*'s care.
From her *imperious Ladys* Face ſhe *fled*,
The way that to her *native Regions* led:
At length a *Well* ſhe ſaw, but on the *Brink*
Sinks fainting down, and wants the *Pow'r* to *drink*:
Here, by her kind *celeſtial Guardian* found,
When juſt *expiring* on the *Deſert Ground*:
He bids her to her *Miſtreſs* ſtrait repair,
Confeſs her *Faults* and make *ſubmiſſion* there,
And adds the *Promiſe* of a joyful *Heir*;
*Iſhmael* his name; He *Beaſts* and *Men* ſhou'd *chaſe*
The *Father* of a bold *unnumber'd Race*.
She heard, and did th' *All-ſeeing Goodneſs* bleſs,
Who *Pity'd* and *Reliev'd* her in *Diſtreſs*:
The *Place* preſerves the wondrous *Action*'s *Fame*,
And thence to diſtant Ages wears its *name*.
-- She roſe *reviv'd*, and to her Lady came;
And of her *ripen'd Burthen* ſoon releas'd
She with a welcome *Son* her Maſter's houſe increas'd.

XII.

## XII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XVI. Ver. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

25



v. 6. *When* Sarai *dealt hardly with* Hagar, *she fled from her face. And the Angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water in the wilderneſs:*

9. *And ſaid unto her, Return to thy miſtreſs, and ſubmit thy ſelf under her hands.*

10. *And the Angel of the Lord ſaid unto her, I will multiply thy ſeed exceedingly, that it ſhall not be numbered for multitude.*

XIII.

## XIII.

### Abraham *entertains Three Angels. A Son is promis'd him.*

BEneath a ſpacious *Oak*'s refreſhing *ſhade*
Which o'r his *Tent* a *friendly Arbour* made,
Repos'd the *Father* of the *Faithful* lay,
To taſte the gentle *Breez* and ſhun the ſcorching *Day*.
Three glorious *Gueſts* before the *Tent* appear'd
In human *Form*; the *Patriarch kneel'd* and *fear'd*:
If *mortal*, asks a mortals *Board* they'd ſhare,
Or if *Divine*, his *Sacrifice* and *Pray'r*.
With *Candor* they accept his friendly *Treat*,
Around the *Oak* each takes his *moſſy Seat*,
*Chearful* and *Grave*, and *eat*, or *ſeem* to *eat*:
When He, who *moſt* of *Majeſty* expreſs'd,
*Larger* his *Form*, and *brighter* than the *reſt*,
Did *hoſpitable Abraham* thus accoſt,
Nor is, Great Sir! your gen'rous *Friendſhip* loſt,
You all the *Bliſs* of happieſt mortals ſhare,
To crown it all you only *want* an *Heir*:
Nor ſhall you long; your *Conſort* ſhall conceive,
All things are *poſſible*, if you *believe*.
The *Patriarch* bow'd, and gave his firm *aſſent*,
And from their joyful *Hoſt* th' illuſtrious *Strangers* went.

# XIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XVIII. Ver. 1. to 10.

27



v. 6. Abraham *ſaid to* Sarah, *make ready quickly three meaſures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.*

7. *And* Abraham *ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he haſtned to dreſs it.*

8. *And he took butter and milk, and the calf which he had dreſſed, and ſet it before them; and he ſtood by them under the tree, and they did eat.*

XIV.

## XIV.

### *God reveals to* Abraham *the Deſtruction of* Sodom. *He intercedes for it.*

THE *Crimes* of *Sodom* ripe for *Vengeance* grown
*Two Angels* haſten to deſtroy the *Town*:
When God -- And ſhall I from juſt *Abraham* hide
My *ſecret Will*, whoſe *Faith* ſo often try'd?
Who'll uſe his *Pow'r* with wiſe impartial Sway,
And make his *Sons* and *Houſe* my Laws obey?
Then to his Friend the *hov'ring Plague* foreſhows,
Who thus for *Grace* did humbly interpoſe.
And ſhall the *Righteous* with the *Guilty* fall?
When *Some* offend, ſhall Vengeance ſeize on *All*?
O rather the devoted *City* ſpare,
If only *Fifty* Pious Souls are there!
I will, ſays God; this gracious *Anſwer* take!
I'll all the City ſpare for *Fifties* ſake.
When *Abraham* thus - Let *Duſt* and *Aſhes* ſpeak!
If only of the number *Five* ſhou'd want
Wou'dſt thou for lack of *Five* reſume this *Grant*?
No, ſaid the Lord, I'll yet the Town *forgive*,
If of the *Fifty* wanting only *Five*.
Lower, and ſtill more low the *Patriarch* came,
For *Twenty* pleads, his Anſwer ſtill the *ſame*:

Yet

Yet *one*, his laſt *Effort* he trembling made,
If only *Ten* were there, for *Mercy* pray'd:
If *Ten* are *Righteous* there, thy Wiſh enjoy,
*Jehova* ſaid, I'll not the Town *deſtroy*.
And here at length the *Wondrous Treaty* ends,
*Abraham* departs, and *God* to Heav'n aſcends.
" O thou whoſe boundleſs *Pity* ſtill the *ſame*
" Still *Juſt*, and *Good* -- *Jehova* is thy Name!
" *Judge* of the *World!* our ſinful *Nation* ſpare,
" Who haſt thy *Fiftys*, and thy Thouſands there;
" Who ſtill *beſiege* thy *Throne* with fervent *Pray'r*:
" Or if our crying *Guilt* be th' fatal *Cloud*
" That ſtops our *Vows*, yet hear, O hear our Saviour's *Blood!*

## GENESIS, Chap. XVIII. from Ver. 17. to the End.

V. 17. *The Lord ſaid, ſhall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do*, &c.

23. *Abraham ſaid, wilt thou alſo deſtroy the righteous with the wicked?*

24. *Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou alſo deſtroy, and not ſpare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?*

25. *Be it far from thee to do after this manner, to ſlay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous ſhould be as the wicked, be that far from thee: ſhall not the judge of all the earth do right*, &c.

## XV.

### *The deſtruction of* Sodom. Lot *is preſerv'd.*

NO longer now cou'd Heav'n its *Bolts* forbear,
No longer *Sodom ripe* for *Vengeance*, ſpare:
Yet thoſe who on the fatal *buſineſs* go;
While righteous *Lot* remains, *ſuſpend* the *Blow:*
With an obliging *Force* they him convey
From thoſe *devoted Walls*, a moments ſtay
Wou'd coſt his *Life*; one *Glance* he muſt not caſt,
But forwards to the neighb'ring *Mountains* haſte:
Their aged *Sire* his trembling *Daughters* joyn'd:
Loaden with *Wealth* his *Wife* came ſlow behind,
Yet wiſh'd for *more*; Her Eyes ſhe cou'd not hold,
But caſt a *longing Look* to her remaining *Gold:*
-- She look'd her *laſt*, her *Eyes* no more her *own*,
*Unmov'd* her *Feet*, *rigid* her *Arms* are grown,
*Rooted* ſhe ſtands a *Monumental Stone.*
And now on *Sodom's Walls* the ruddy *Vengeance* fell,
And pour'd from angry *Heav'n* inevitable *Hell:*
Broad *Sheets* of ghaſtly *Flame* involve the guilty *Town*,
The golden *Statues* melt, the *Walls* come tumbling down:
Deep in a dire *Abyſs* their *Grave* and *Ruin* find,
And leave a *noiſom Lake*, and ſulph'rous *Flames* behind.
Learn *Mortals!* learn from hence to dread th' *Immortals Ire!*
For here was *fiery Luſt* reveng'd with *hotter Fire.*

XV.

# XV.

## GENESIS, Chap. XIX. Ver. 12. to 29.

31



24. *The* Lord *rain'd upon* Sodom *and upon* Gomorrah *brimſtone and fire from heaven.*

25. *And he overthrew thoſe cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.*

26. *But his wife looked back from behind him, and ſhe became a pillar of ſalt.*

XVI.

## XVI.

### Iſaac *born:* Hagar *and* Iſhmael *caſt forth. God comforts them.*

THO' Heav'n a while *delays*, it can't *deceive*,
And thoſe are not *impatient*, who *believe*:
An *Hundred* rolling years without an *Heir*,
Had *Abraham* paſs'd but wou'd not yet *deſpair*;
At length the welcome promis'd *Bleſſing* came,
A *Son* is born, and *Iſaac* is his *name*:
Beyond her *Hopes* the joyful *Sarah* bleſs'd,
To ſee the ſmiling *Infant* at her *Breaſt*.
Which when he now *forſook*, a ſplendid Feaſt
For all his cheerful *Friends* the *Patriarch* made,
And *Victims* on the ſmoaking *Altars* laid,
*Doubly* a Father *double Thanks* he pay'd.
But *mortal joys* are *unſincere* and vain,
And all our *Pleaſure* ſoon allay'd with *Pain*:
*Iſhmael* with *Scoffs* inſults th' *intruding Heir*,
Nor *Sarah*, haughty *Sarah* this cou'd *bear*;
*Hence* with the *Slaves*, ſhe ſaid, let *both away*,
Nor ſhall they to *affront* my *Iſaac* ſtay.
Agen ſad *Hagar* wanders thro' the *wild*,
*Loaden* with *Grief*, and with her exil'd *Child*:
The *Water* now was ſpent ſhe with her bore,
And in the thirſty *Sands* what *Hopes* of more?

Her

Her *Tears* the only moiſture to ſupply
Her *fainting Son*, tho' ev'n her *Eyes* grew dry
*Parch'd* and *exhauſt*; nor cou'd ſhe *ſee him die*:
One *Kiſs* ſhe gave, that *Kiſs* ſhe thought her *laſt*,
And then beneath a *Buſh* the Child ſhe *caſt*:
With much of *Pain* he rais'd his fainting *Eyes*,
And for his *Mother* calls with *feeble cries*.
That boundleſs *Pity* who does all ſurvey,
Who not diſdains to aid our *mortal Clay*,
Tho' *Angels* ſerve him, ſaw their deep *diſtreſs*,
Nor *unregarding* ſaw, but did *redreſs*.
He bids the *mournful Mother* ceaſe her Fears,
For God had heard *his Voice*, had heard *her Tears*.
Ariſe, ſaid he, agen thy *Iſhmael* take:
Of *Iſhmael* I'll a *mighty Nation* make.
When near her ſhe a *Cryſtal Well* perceives,
And with recruited Stores herſelf and *Him* relieves.

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## GENESIS, Chap. XXI. Ver. 2. 3.

2. Sarah *bare a ſon at the ſet time of which God had ſpoken.*

3. *And* Abraham *called the name of his ſon, whom* Sarah *bare to him*, Iſaac.

## XVII. Abraham *commanded to offer* Isaac. *An* Angel *stays his Hand.*

AND now to *Abraham* thus th' *Almighty* spake,
Thy *Son*, thine *only* Son, thine *Isaac* take,
And where *Moriahs* craggy Mountains rise
The *Youth* to him that gave him, *sacrifice.*
Nor did the *Friend* of God *dispute* or *stay*;
He knew 'twas *Heaven*'s to *order*, his t' *obey*:
Who *gave* him, cou'd *perform* the *Words* he said,
Who *bid* him *die* cou'd *raise* him from the *Dead.*
Scarce had the *Sun* forsook th' *Eöan Main*
And chas'd the *Shades* o'r scorch'd *Arabia*'s Plain,
When *Abraham*, *yet a Father*, leaves his *Tent*,
And to the *Place* with his lov'd *Isaac* went:
The *thoughtful Father* bore the *Knife* and *Fire*,
His *Son* the *Wood*, who thus accosts his *Sire*:
--- Nor *Wood*, nor *Fire*, for *Sacrifice* we *need*,
But where's the *Lamb* must on the *Altar* bleed?
*Unmov'd* the faithful *Patriarch* thus reply'd,
'Tis *God* who *sends* and he'll the *Lamb* provide.
And now the *Victim*'s on the *Altar* bound
The *Father*'s *Hand* is rais'd to give the fatal *Wound*:
O *Piety!* O *Nature!* Why so slow,
Ye *Angels*, to divert the falling *Blow!* (mand
At length 'tis *done*; at length by *Heavn*'s com-
A willing *Watcher* flies, and *stops* his *Hand*:
When from the *Throne* a voice like *Thunder* broke
And to the *Patriarch* thus th' *Almighty* spoke.
" Enough, my *Friend!* enough thy *Piety* is shown
" Thy matchless *Faith* shall be to after-*Ages* known
" I by my self have sworn thy num'rous *Seed* I'll *bless*
The *gates* of those that *hate* them shall thy *Seed* possess
" The *Saviour* of the World shall from thy *Stock* arise
" T' *atone* his Father's *Wrath* a willing *Sacrifice.*

XVII

# XVII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXII. Ver. 1. to 3. 6. to 12. 16. to 18.

35



V. 2. *God ſaid, take thy ſon* Iſaac, *and offer him for a burnt offering.*

6. Abraham *took the wood of the burnt-offering, and laid it upon* Iſaac *his ſon; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife: and they went both of them together.*

9. *And laid the wood in order; and bound* Iſaac *his ſon, and laid him on the altar upon the wood,* &c.

## XVIII.

## Abraham *ſends his Servant to take a Wife for his Son* Iſaac.

HOary with *Age* the *Patriarch* now appears,
And *bends* beneath a *Century* of *Years*:
Concern'd for his reſtor'd *miraculous Son*,
His faithful *Servant* call'd, he thus begun.
-- *Swear*, *Swear*, ſaid he, by him who rules the *Sky*,
Who made this *Earth*, and yon bright *Orbs* on high,
Thou'lt not thy Maſter's *Family diſgrace*,
Nor match my Son to *Canaans* hated *Race*;
But back to *Aramæan Fields* repair,
And from my *Kindred* chuſe his *Conſort* there:
Attent the *Servant* hears, to all he yields,
And ſpeeds away for *Padans* diſtant Fields:
Nor *empty* he nor unattended goes,
But *Ten fair Camels* of his Maſters choſe,
With *Spice* and *Gold*, which both th' *Arabia*'s bleſs'd,
And all the various *Treaſures* of the *Eaſt*.
(Scarce wealthier *Caravans* in after-Days
Shall *Iſhmaels* Sons to their *Impoſtors Tomb*,
Or from th' *Armuzian Gulf*, and *Perſia*'s ſhores,
Or old *Damaſcus*, earthly *Paradiſe*,
In ſafety *Pilot* o'r the *ſandy Main*.)
And now the *Sun* with faint declining *Beams*
Strikes the tall *Hills*, and *gilds* the Cryſtal *Streams*:
Arriv'd, the pious *Trav'ler kneel'd* and *pray'd*,
Nor long before he ſaw the *charming Maid*,
Whom for his Maſter's *Boſom* Heav'n deſign'd:
The *Meſſage* done his aged Lord enjoyn'd,
He gains the *Virgin*'s, and her *Friends conſent*,
And ſoon rejoicing home with his fair *Charge* he went.

# XVIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXIV. from Ver. 17. to 20.

37



v. 17. *The ſervant ran to meet her, and ſaid, let me (I pray thee) drink a little water of thy pitcher.*

18. *And ſhe ſaid, drink my lord: and ſhe haſted and let down her pitcher upon her hand and gave him drink.*

19. *And when ſhe had done giving him drink, ſhe ſaid, I will draw water for thy camels alſo, until they have done drinking.*

20. *And ſhe haſted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.*

## XIX.

**Rebecca** *being barren,* **Iſaac** *prays for her.* **Eſau** *and* **Jacob** *born. Their conditions foretold.*

VAin *Man,* when of his *darling Wiſh* poſſeſs'd
Still ſomething *wants* which leaves him ſtill *unbleſs'd.*
We ask of *Heaven* and murmur when *deny'd,*
We ask fair *Children* and a *beauteous Bride.*
But *Heav'n* alone foreſees the dark *Event,*
And whether they in *Wrath* or *Mercy* ſent.
And is there no *Relief* for mortal *Care*
No *Balm* for all our *Wounds* ? - There is - 'Tis *Pray'r* :
By this, *unſhock'd,* the fierceſt *Storms* we bear,
By this *remove* ; new *Light* and *Joy* receive,
And *breath* agen a while, and *think* we *live.*
This all the *Juſt* of old, this *Iſaac* try'd :
No ſmiling *Heir* to bleſs his lovely *Bride :*
Can Heav'n *forget* what Heav'n itſelf *decreed,*
Where are his *Hopes,* and where the *Promis'd Seed!*
His *barren Wealth,* th' effect of all his *Care*
Muſt *Rapine* ſeize, or thankleſs *Strangers* ſhare ?
The *fruitful Poor* he bleſs'd - Yet did he not *deſpair.*

Full

Full *Twenty Years* he *pray'd*, nor *pray'd* in vain,
But does at length a *doubled Bleſſing* gain:
The ſad *Rebecca's* barren Womb's unſeal'd,
And of her ſtruggling *Birth* the *Fate's* reveal'd:
" Two *Nations*, thus ſaid God, are in thy *Womb*
" Two different *Warring People* thence ſhall come
" The *younger Hand* the *Scepter* doom'd to ſway,
' The *Elder*, tho' reluctting, muſt *obey*.
And now her *ripen'd Burthen* preſs'd to ſhare
The cheerful *Light* and taſt ſweet *Vital Air*:
A *double Birth* from her glad *Labor* came,
Rough *ESAU* was the Firſt, *JACOB* the *Younger's* Name.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXV. Ver. 21. to 26.

23. *The Lord ſaid unto her, two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people ſhall be ſeparated from thy bowels: and the one people ſhall be ſtronger than the other people; and the elder ſhall ſerve the younger.*

24. *And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.*

25. *And the firſt came out red, all over like an hairy garment: and they called his name* Eſau.

26. *And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on* Eſau's *heel; and his name was called* Jacob.

## XX.

### Jacob *gets the Bleſſing from* Eſau.

SWift *Hours* and winged *Moments*, why ſo *faſt*,
And O ye *Ages!* who commands your *Haſt?*
How ſoon the *Bloom* of *Life* and *Youth* are flown?
How ſoon we grow unto our *Selves unknown?*
*Decrepid Iſaac* now has loſt his *Sight*,
His *Orbs* in vain attempt the *cheerful Light*;
Fair *Heav'n*, and *Man's* dear Face they *ſearch* in vain:
His *heavier Sences* only *firm* remain:
*Touch*, *Hearing*, *Taſte*, and *Smell*, unbroke and ſtrong,
And ſtill the *glimm'ring Lamp* of Life prolong.
-- But his *Immortal Mind* renews its *Sight*,
More *quick* and *vig'rous* grown when *wing'd* for *flight*
And on the *Ridge* of Life can farther ſee
Within the *Realms* of dark *Futurity*.
Of thoſe *Two Sons* which bleſs'd his *Nuptial Bed*
He his lov'd *Eſau* call'd, and thus he ſaid.
--- Hence to the *Woods* my Son! and ſwift as *wind*
Go chaſe the lofty *Stag*, or nimble *Hind*:
When *Heav'n* thy *Labor* crowns with wiſh'd *ſucceſs*
Return, and thee before my *Death* I'll *bleſs*.
His *Mother* heard, her favour'd *Jacob* ſent
His lingring Brother's *Bleſſing* to prevent:
The Father *bleſs'd*, *unknowing* his *Deceit*,
And God *confirm'd* his *Word*, and made it *Fate*:
Thus, *Good* from *Ill*, unbounded *Wiſdom* draws,
And thus juſt Heav'n *diſpoſes* what it did not *cauſe*.

# XX.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXVII. 1. to Ver. 23.

41



v. 17. Rebecca *gave the ſavory meat, and the bread which ſhe had prepared, into the hand of her ſon* Jacob.

18. *And he came unto his father, and ſaid, my father: and he ſaid, here am I; who art thou my ſon?*

19. *And* Jacob *ſaid unto his father, I am* Eſau *thy firſt-born; I have done according as thou badeſt me: ariſe, I pray thee, ſit and eat of my veniſon, that thy ſoul may bleſs me.*

23. *And he diſcerned him not, becauſe his hands were hairy, as his brother* Eſau's *hands: ſo he bleſſed him.*

XXI.

## XXI.

### Eſau *complains of his Brother's ſupplanting him.* Iſaac *bleſſes* Eſau.

WEary and *faint* returning from the *Chaſe*
To meet his Father's *Bleſſing* and *Embrace*
Young *Eſau* comes, and begs he'd deign to ſhare
Th' *Effects* of his *Good-Fortune* and his *Care*:
*Trembled* the *Patriarch* when his *Voice* he knew;
" If thou my *Son*, my *Eſau*, where and who,
" Where is th' *Impoſtor* did thy *Bleſſing* ſteal?
" Nor can I that *reverſe* which *Heav'n* did *ſeal*.
Fierce *Eſau* hears, with loud and bitter *Cries*
Accuſes *partial Fate*, and *rends* the *Skies*.
O *Father*, *Brother!* in my *ruin* joyn'd!
A *Brother* falſe, a *Father* as *unkind!*
And have you then *exhauſted* all your *Store*,
He adds with *Tears*, not One, One *Bleſſing* more
Can you upon your *once-lov'd* Son beſtow,
Who ſtrains theſe *Knees*, and at your *Feet* will *grow!*
Of *that*, at leaſt, a *Brother* can't deprive;
*That*, ev'n to *Eſau*, may a *Father* give.

The

The *Patriarch* thus, I *him thy Lord* have made.
By *Nations* ſerv'd, by *Suppliant Foes* obey'd:
With *Corn* and *Wine* did I his *Race* ſuſtain;
Yet thou, at length, ſhalt *break* his ſervile Chain:
The *Dew* of *Heav'n* ſhall on thy *Lot* deſcend,
The *fertile Glebe* uncommon Bleſſings lend,
And *Triumphs* thy victorious *Sword* attend.
But half content did *Eſau* thence depart,
And treaſur'd Deep *Revenge* within his canker'd *Heart*.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXVII. from Ver. 30. to 41.

v. 31. Eſau *alſo made ſavory meat, and brought it unto his father; and ſaid unto his father, Let my father ariſe, and eat of his ſons veniſon, that thy ſoul may bleſs me*, &c.

35. *And* Iſaac *ſaid, thy brother came with ſubtilty, and hath taken away thy bleſſing.*

39. *Behold, thy dwelling ſhall be the fatneſs of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above.*

40. *And by thy ſword ſhalt thou live, and ſhalt ſerve thy brother: and it ſhall come to paſs when thou ſhalt have the dominion, that thou ſhalt break his yoke from off thy neck.*

## XXII.

### Rebecca *ſends* Jacob *to* Padan-Aram. *Who ſees a Viſion of Angels in the way.*

AND now his fearful *Mother*, *Jacob* ſends
To *Bethuel*, and her *Aramëan Friends*:
Who, when *Still Night* her ſable wings had ſpread,
A *Stone* his *Pillar*, and the *Earth* his Bed,
Weary with trav'ling takes his welcome *Reſt*,
With glorious *Dreams*, and heav'nly *Viſions* bleſs'd:
He ſaw fair *Angels* from the *Clouds* deſcend,
And to the *Place* their ſhining *Footſteps* bend:
A wondrous *Scale* he ſaw from *Earth* ariſe
Whoſe lofty *top* was hid within the *Skies*.
Th' *Angelic Forms* were now no longer *fair*,
Their Rays eclips'd, for *God* himſelf was there,
When loe a *Voice* was heard, a *Voice* divine,
" I am thy *Father's God*, and will be *thine!*
" The *Land* where thou a *Stranger*, now doſt *reſt*
" Shall be by thy *unnumber'd Seed* poſſeſs'd,
" And all the *World* ſhall in thy *Seed be bleſs'd*.
" Where e'r thou go'ſt my *Favour* ſhall attend,
" My watchful *Angels* ſhall from *Ill* defend:
" Nor will I leave thee till I thee *reſtore*,
" Till all my *Words* I have *perform'd*, and *more*.
He ſaid, the *glorious Viſions* were too bright;
*Sleep* flies away, at once they take their *Flight*,
And *modeſt Day* aroſe, and *ſhone* with *paler Light*.

# XXII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXVIII. Ver. 10. to 15.

45



V. 10. 11. Jacob *went out from* Beerſheba, *and lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night: and he took of the ſtones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to ſleep.*

12. *And he dreamed, and behold, a ladder ſet upon the earth, and the top of it reached unto heaven: and behold, the angels of God aſcending and deſcending on it.*

13. *And behold the Lord ſtood above it, and ſaid I am the God of* Abraham *thy father, and the God of* Iſaac: *the land whereon thou lieſt, to thee will I give it, and to thy ſeed.*

XXIII.

## XXIII.

### Jacob's *Vow.*

THE *Pious Pilgrim* ſtruck with ſacred *Awe*,
And deep revolving what he *heard* and *ſaw*;
While yet the *Sun* did ſcarce his *Beams* diſcloſe
Thus to himſelf, as he from *Earth* aroſe.

Well may I *tremble*, when ſuch *Cauſe* for *Fear*,
How *dreadful is this Place, for God is here!*
'Tis *Holy*, 'tis *Divine* -- Away *Profane!*
What *mortal Strength* ſuch *Brightneſs* may *ſuſtain!*
What ſacred *Horror* trills thro' every *Vein!*
The *Gates* of *Heav'n* are here *expanded* wide;
The *King of Kings* does here himſelf *reſide:*
And may the *Pow'r* who *fills* it, not deſpiſe
My grateful, tho' my humble *Sacrifice!*
Then rais'd the *Stone* on which he *lean'd* his *Head*,
Pure *Oyl* he pour'd thereon, and thus he *ſaid:*
" *God of my Fathers!* My *Petition* grant!
" Let me not *daily Bread*, and *Rayment* want!
" O *proſper*, and *preſerve!* I ask no more,
" And to my *Father's Houſe* in *Peace* reſtore!
" So, *thou* my *God*, this *Place* thy *Houſe* ſhall be,
" And *Tythes* of all thou giv'ſt I'll *conſecrate* to *Thee.*

# XXIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXVIII. Ver. 18. to the End.

47



v. 18. Jacob *roſe up early in the morning, and took the ſtone that he had put for his pillows, and ſet it up for a pillar, and poured oyl upon the top of it.*

19. *And he called the name of that place* Beth-el.

20. *And* Jacob *vowed a vow, ſaying, if God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on;*

21. *So that I come again to my fathers houſe in peace: then ſhall the* Lord *be my* God.

22. *And this ſtone which I have ſet for a pillar, ſhall be God's houſe: and of all that thou ſhalt give me, I will ſurely give the tenth to thee.*

XXIV.

## XXIII.

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And deep revolving what he *heard* and *ſaw*;
While yet the *Sun* did ſcarce his *Beams* diſcloſe
Thus to himſelf, as he from *Earth* aroſe.

Well may I *tremble*, when ſuch *Cauſe* for *Fear*,
How *dreadful is this Place, for God is here!*
'Tis *Holy*, 'tis *Divine* -- Away *Profane!*
What *mortal Strength* ſuch *Brightneſs* may *ſuſtain!*
What ſacred *Horror* trills thro' every *Vein!*
The *Gates* of *Heav'n* are here *expanded* wide;
The *King of Kings* does here himſelf *reſide*:
And may the *Pow'r* who *fills* it, not deſpiſe
My grateful, tho' my humble *Sacrifice!*
Then rais'd the *Stone* on which he *lean'd* his *Head*,
Pure *Oyl* he pour'd thereon, and thus he *ſaid*:
" *God of my Fathers!* My *Petition* grant!
" Let me not *daily Bread*, and *Rayment* want!
" O *proſper*, and *preſerve!* I ask no more,
" And to my *Father's Houſe* in *Peace* reſtore!
" So, *thou* my *God*, this *Place* thy *Houſe* ſhall be,
" And *Tythes* of all thou giv'ſt I'll *conſecrate* to *Thee*.

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21. *So that I come again to my fathers houſe in peace: then ſhall the* Lord *be my* God.

22. *And this ſtone which I have ſet for a pillar, ſhall be God's houſe: and of all that thou ſhalt give me, I will ſurely give the tenth to thee.*

XXIV.

## XXIV.

### Jacob *comes to the Well of* Haran: *ſees* Rachel. *Is received by* Laban.

ENcourag'd thus, his *Journy* he purſues,
Till *Harans* Eaſtern Fields at length he views,
Cover'd with *Flocks* which graz'd the fertile *Plains*
*Conducted* and ſecur'd by harmleſs *Swains*.
The *Sun* ſhot fiercely from the *heigth* of Day,
Panting for Heat the *Flocks* and *Shepherds* lay
Around a limpid *Fountains* Brim; but none
Cou'd from the *Entrance* move the pondrous *Stone*:
*Twice* Six of our degen'rate weaker *Race*
The *rocky Fragment* hardly cou'd diſplace;
With eaſe the *Hebrew* throws it from the *brink*,
And makes wide way for all the *Flocks* to *drink*;
For *Laban's Flock* he ſees approaching near,
He ſees their lovely *Shepherdeſs* appear,
The *Charms of Innocence* and *Beauty* wear.
With more than *Friendſhip* in his Eyes and *Face*
He *look'd* and *bluſh'd*, and ran to her *Embrace*:
His *Name* and *Kindred* to the *Maid* reveals
With *trembling Lips*, and ſcarce his *Love* conceals.
Rich *Laban* hears, he meets him at the *Gates*,
His *Kinſman*, to his *Houſe* with courteous *welcome* waits.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXIX. Ver. 10. 14.

10. *When* Jacob *ſaw* Rachel *the daughter of* Laban *his mother's brother, and the ſheep of* Laban; *that* Jacob *went near, and rolled the ſtone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of* Laban *his mothers brother.*

11. *And*

11. *And* Jacob *kiſſed* Rachel, *and lifted up his voice and wept.*

14. *And* Laban *ſaid to him, ſurely thou art my bone and my fleſh: and he abode with him the ſpace of a month.*

## XXV.

### Jacob *loves* Rachel, *and ſerves for her Seven Years.*

ILL *Apes* of ancient *Truths*, the *Pagans*, feign
That *Love* transform'd *Apollo* to a *Swain*:
See here the *Founder* of the *Sacred Race*
For *Sev'n* long years that pleaſing *Toil* embrace!
His *Sheep* their *Maſter's* watchful *Eye* confeſs,
Tho' more he heeds their charming *Shepherdeſs*:
Or on ſome hanging *Mountains* verdant *Side*,
Or near fair *Streams* which thro' the *Valleys* glide,
Or on a *flow'ry Bank*, beneath the *ſhade*
By ſpreading *Palms* and lofty *Cedars* made,
Which *ſcreen'd* the *Sun*, but *fann'd* his inward *Fire*,
He *ſate*, and *ſung*, and touch'd his tuneful *Lyre*.
He ſung what paſs'd a *vulgar Shepherds* Lays,
How God did this fair *World* from *Chaos* raiſe;
How, *Man*, its *Lord*, he made, and from his *Side*,
(What cannot *Heav'n?*) educ'd his beauteous *Bride*;
When firſt they *met*, what *Joy*, what ſtrange *ſurprize*,
And all their bleſs'd *Employ* in *Paradiſe*.
Nor did his *Virtuous Suit* ſucceſsleſs prove,
For *Verſe* and Muſick ne'r were *Foes* to *Love*:
Her *Heart* he wins, he wins her *Friends* aſſent,
And brings the *beauteous Prize* in triumph to his *Tent*.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXIX. Ver. 18 to 20.

18. Jacob *loved* Rachel, *and serv'd seven years for her; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.*

## XXVI.

### Jacob's *departure.* Laban *pursues him. God appears to* Laban: *He makes a Covenant with* Jacob.

FUll *twenty Years* the happy *Exile* stay'd
In *Harans Fields*, his *Labors* well repay'd:
So well his faithful Industry was bless'd
His Flocks and Herds thro' all the Plains increas'd.
A num'rous *Offspring* crown'd his nuptial *Bed*,
Nor they the *Scorn* of *Fools* for *want of Bread.*
Yet something still of *Happiness* behind:
His *once dear Home* he often call'd to mind,
And *Father's House*; fain wou'd he close his *Eyes*,
And see the *aged Sire* before he *dies.*
With *Heav'n* to *Friend* at length he homeward went,
Nor jealous *Laban* knew his *Son's* intent:
By gentle *Journeys* still to *West* he leads,
And *Paths* well known with his fair *Troop* he treads.
They thro' *rough ways*, thro' various *Regions* pass'd,
*Euphrates* cross'd and *Bashans Fields*, at last

Fair

Fair *Gilead* reach'd, he hopes the *Danger*'s o'r,
His richly laden *Bark* in ſight of Shore:
But *angry Laban* hears, and like the *Wind*
With his *tempeſtuous Friends* came ſwift behind;
The *feeble Troop* o'retake, and nothing *breath*
But *Wrath* and *Vengeance*, *Slavery* and *Death*:
Too late to *fly*, too *weak* to *meet* the Foe:
But interpoſing *Heav'n* put by the *Blow*;
For God a *Viſionary Scene* diſplay'd,
And thus by *Night* to trembling *Laban* ſaid:
"Touch not my Servant, my peculiar *Care*,
"And ev'n the leaſt provoking *Word* forbear:
I' th' *Morn* they meet, and in a *League* combine,
Which *ragged Heaps of Stones* to after-Ages ſign.

---

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXI. 17. 20. 21. 23. 24. 25. 44. to 51.

v. 21. Jacob *fled with all that he had toward Mount* Gilead.

24. *And God came to* Laban *the* Syrian *in a dream by night, and ſaid unto him, take heed that thou ſpeak not to* Jacob *either good or bad.*

51. *And* Laban *ſaid to* Jacob, *behold this heap, and behold this pillar which I have caſt betwixt me and thee;*

52. *This heap be witneſs, and this pillar be witneſs, that I will not paſs over this heap to thee, and that thou ſhalt not paſs over this heap and this pillar unto me, for harm,* &c.

## XXVII.

### Eſau *comes to meet* Jacob. *He ſends a Preſent to appeaſe him. He wreſtles with an Angel: His name is called* Iſrael.

THis *Storm* no ſooner paſs'd but others riſe,
And with new *Tumults* fill the angry *Skies*;
For now proud *Selahs* craggy *Rock* appears
And *Edoms* Realms; the conſcious *Jacob* fears;
Fears his Supplanted *Brother*'s Arms, and ſent
The diſtant gath'ring *Miſchief* to prevent:
His *Meſſengers* ungrateful Tidings bring
Returning ſwift -- (*Ill news* is on the *Wing*,
The *Good* comes *ſlow* behind with *lazy Feet*:)
*Fierce Eſau* with Four Hundred Men they meet,
All on *full march* his Brother's *Camp* to find,
Panting they come, and think him cloſe *behind*.
The *Patriarch*'s with the doubtful news diſtreſs'd,
And various *Paſſions* ſtruggled in his *Breaſt*:
Firſt *Heav'n* by *Pray'r* did on his *Side* engage,
And then to melt his injur'd Brother's *Rage*
*Large Droves* of Oxen, Sheep, and Camels brings,
When joyn'd, a *Preſent* not unworthy *Kings*:
Then o'r the *Ford* his num'rous *Houſhold* ſent,
He only ſtay'd behind, and kept his *Tent*;
And as he *ſtorms* high *Heav'n* with pious *Pray'r*,
In *Human Form* an *Angel* enters there;
Whom *Jacob* ſeiz'd, the heav'nly *Warrior* preſs'd,
Nor wou'd he let him go, himſelf *unbleſs'd*:
The *Angel* thus -- I grant thee thy *Requeſt*:
*Jacob* no more, thy name ſhall *Iſrael* be,
For thou with *God* and *Man* haſt gain'd the victory.

# XXVII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXII. Ver. 3. 6. 9. 13. to 15. 22. 24. to 28.

53



v. 6. *The meſſenger ſaid, thy brother* Eſaū *comes to meet thee, and four hundred men.*

7. *Then* Jacob *was greatly afraid, and took of that which came to his hand, a preſent for* Eſau *his brother.*

24. 25. *There wreſtled a man with* Jacob, *and when he ſaw that he prevailed not againſt him, he touched the hollow of his thigh: and the hollow of* Jacob's *thigh was out of joynt, as he wreſtled with him.*

28. *And he ſaid, thy name ſhall be called no more* Jacob, *but* Iſrael: *for as a prince haſt thou power with God and with men, and haſt prevailed.*

## XXVIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXIII. Ver. 1. 8. to 11. 16.

### *The kind meeting of* Esau *and* Jacob.

THE *Patriarch* now assur'd of heavenly *Aid*
When first the Sun his *radiant Face* display'd
*Crosses* the murmuring *Brook*, no more affraid:
His Brother's *Troops* he sees, not *unprepar'd*,
He knew he had himself a *Stronger Guard*.
But pow'rful *Heav'n* had chang'd his *Heart* before,
'Twas *moulded* new, *revengeful* now no more:
*Fury* and *Murder*, direful *Forms* remove,
Soft *Pity* them succeeds, and mild *fraternal Love*:
He came to *Guard* and *Welcome*, not *contend*,
And only *knew* the *Brother* and the *Friend*.
When *Joy* wou'd give him leave his *Thoughts* to vent,
He asks him what those *Droves* behind him *meant*?
'Tis only a *small Present*, he rejoyn'd,
Tho' far too *mean*, for *you*, my Lord, design'd.
I have enough, my *Brother*, spare your cost
Replys the *Prince*; on *me* 'tis only *lost*:
So long he urg'd till he his *Gifts* receives,
And *Jacob* not *displeas'd*, upon his Journey *leaves*.

## XXIX.

### GENESIS, Chap. XXXIV. Ver. 1. 2. 25. 26. 30. 31.

### Dinah *raviſh'd*, *The* Shechemites *ſlain by* Simeon *and* Levi.

TO *Shalem*'s Fields did *Jacob* now repair,
His *Tent* he pitch'd, and built an *Altar* there:
The while young *Dinah*, innocent and fair,
Of *Home* and rural *Pleaſures* weary grown
*Steals* from her Father's *Tent* to ſee the *Town*,
And with her *Canaanitiſh Friends* reſort
To *Hamor*'s *Palace*, and luxurious *Court*.
Young *Shechem* ſaw, he *treated* and *careſs'd*,
A *lawleſs Fire* inflam'd the *Princes* Breaſt,
He ſeiz'd the *ſtruggling Maid*, and all his *Wiſh* poſ-
*Simeon* and *Levi heard*, they both *conſpire*, (ſeſs'd:
(Enflam'd with *Wrath*, as *Shechem* with *Deſire*,)
Severe Revenge for this Affront to take,
And kill the *People* for their *Prince*'s ſake:
By guileful *Arts* they an *Advantage* gain,
And the defenceleſs *Citizens* are *ſlain*:
*Cover'd* with *Blood* they to their *Father* come,
And with 'em lead their *mournful Siſter* home:
No *Joy* their *Conqueſt* brought his peaceful *Tent*,
Their raſh *Revenge* he *chides*, and dreads th' *Event*:
His eager *Sons*, their *Paſſion* ſcarce allay'd,
Defend the cruel *Fact*, and thus they ſaid:
" Can ought for ſuch a *Crime* be too *ſevere*:
" It was too *much*, too *much* for *Man* to *bear*.
" With his *hot Blood* we've purg'd that foul *diſgrace*
" The *Raviſher* has fix'd on *us*, and all our *Race*.

## XXX.

### GENESIS, Chap. XXXV. Ver. 16. 19. 20.

### Rachels *Death. Her Burial, and Tomb.*

AH, why ſhou'd cheated mortals *wiſh* and *chuſe*,
Or the dear *charming Object* ever loſe!
Has *Love* itſelf no more of *Bliſs* to give,
Or *fears* too ſoon we'd all our *Joys outlive!*
Thro' *Want* and *Sorrow* long the *Patriarch* ſtrove,
And *ſoftned* all his *Cares* with *virtuous Love*;
The rugged *Tempeſt* paſs'd, the *Storms* were o'r,
His *Treaſure*'s loſt upon the wiſh'd-for *Shore:*
His *Rachel*, his long Labor's happy *Prize*,
*Joy* of his *Heart*, and *Light* of his glad *Eyes*,
*Himſelf* the *Cauſe*, in ling'ring *Torments* dies:
Scarce cou'd his *Piety* Deſpair *prevent*,
Or make him with ſo *vaſt* a *Loſs* content.
What was the *World* to him when ſhe was gone?
A *Deſert* all, a *Skie* without a *Sun.*
Yet will he *live*, her *Aſhes* to perfume,
And ſcatter *Tears* and *Roſes* round her *Tomb:*
A *Marble Pillar* o'r her *Duſt* he rears,
Which this inſcrib'd to *After-Ages* wears.

" *BEAUTY and LOVE are in this Vault enſhrin'd,*
" *While he who loſt 'em both ſtays languiſhing behind.*

XXXI.

## XXXI.

### GENESIS, Chap. XXXVII. Ver. 5. to 11.

Joſeph's *Dreams*. *His Brethren hate him.*

CAN *Envy*, *Hatred*, and *Ambition* reign
With harmleſs *Shepherds* on their humble Plain!
Ev'n *there* we ſearch for *Happineſs* in vain:
Againſt a *Fav'rite* too they *there* combine,
With leſs of *Art*, but ſtill the ſame *deſign*:
They on another's *Ruin* hope to *riſe*,
And for a *Dream* wou'd Joſeph *ſacrifice*.
He *thought* he ſaw the *Fields* with *Harveſt* crown'd,
And in large *Sheaves* the golden *Bleſſings* bound;
His *Brother's Sheaves* to *his*, obeiſance pay'd;
They *heard*, and thus with ſcornful *Taunts* they ſaid:
Is that ſtrong *Hand* a *Scepter* doom'd to ſway,
While we and all our *Father's Houſe* obey?
Agen he *dreams*, the *Sun* and *Moon* appear,
*Elev'n* fair *Stars* which weaker *Luſtre* wear
Compoſe their *Train*; they all in *conſult* meet,
Humbly *ſubmit*, and bow beneath his *Feet*:
The *Patriarch* hear'd, his forward *Son* reprov'd,
Tho' with the weighty *Omen* not unmov'd:
He treaſures up his *Dreams*, content to wait
Till *lab'ring Time* diſclos'd the deep *Reſolves* of *Fate*.

## XXXII.

### Joſeph *ſold to the* Iſhmaelites *by his Brethren, and carried into* Egypt.

NEar *Shechem*'s ruin'd *Walls* the *Patriarchs* led
Their Father's *Flocks*, and there ſecurely fed;
From thence, (the *Fields* depaſtur'd) farther drive
Till they at *Dothan*'s fertile *Plains* arrive:
Young *Joſeph* goes, commanded by his *Sire*
To find the *Ten*, and of their *Health* enquire;
Diſcern'd at *Diſtance*, they his *Death* conſpire:
He comes, they cry, our *future Lord* let's kill,
And ſee if then he can his *Dreams fulfil*.
*Reuben*, of *Nature merciful*, and mild,
Allays their *Rage*, and ſeeks to ſave the *Child*:
Into a *Pit* the *Innocent* they caſt,
And careleſs ſeat themſelves to their *repaſt*:
As chanc'd a *Band* of *Iſhmaels* Sons came by
With *Spices*, *Balm*, and *Myrrh*, approching nigh,
Thus *Judah* to his liſtning *Brethren* ſaid:
What *Gain* if each upon his guilty *Head*
Our *Brother's Blood* we draw? Our ſelves let's *clear*
To theſe we'll ſell the *Youth*, nor need we fear
Of *him* or of his *Dreams* again to *hear*.
The *motion* pleas'd, he's *ſold*, the *Price* is pay'd,
And thro' the *Deſerts* he to *Mizraims Realms* convey'd.

# XXXII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXVII. Ver. 12. to 28.

59



v. 26. Judah *ſaid unto his brethren, what profit is it if we ſlay our brother, and conceal his bloud?*

27. *Come, and let us ſell to him the* Iſhmaelites, *and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother, and our fleſh: and his brethren were content.*

28. *Then there paſſed by* Midianites, *merchantmen; and they drew and lift up* Joſeph *out of the pit, and ſold* Joſeph *to the* Iſhmaelites *for twenty pieces of ſilver: and they brought* Joſeph *into* Egypt.

XXXIII.

## XXXIII.

### Jacob *laments for his Son* Joseph.

THE *Breth'ren* now with *Fraud* their *Fact* dis-
guise,
And their *Injustice* must *conceal* with *Lies:*
His *Coat* of various *Colours* richly made,
*Distain'd* with *Blood* is to his *Sire* convey'd:
The *Coat* too well he knew, with *Grief* o'rpow'rd,
'Tis *his*, 'tis *his*, he cries, my *Son's devour'd*,
My *Joseph* is no *more* — Behold him *tear*
With loud *Laments* his *Garments* and his *Hair!*
His *goodly Robes* he into *Sackcloth* turns,
Cover'd with *Dust* in deep *Despair* he *mourns.*
His *num'rous Sons* and all his *House* arise
And strive to *ease* his *Cares*; too *late*, he cries,
And *Hope* and *Comfort* now alike *defies:*
Ah my *Lov'd Son!* shall I thy *Loss* survive?
When *Joseph* is no *more* shall *Jacob live?*
*Heavier* ye *Griefs!* make haste ye ling'ring *Cares.*
And quickly *press* to *Earth* these *Hoary Hairs:*
As *fast* as an *Old Man* can move, I'll *come*,
And *meet* thee once agen, my *Joseph*, in the *Tomb.*

# XXXIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXVII. from Ver. 31. to 35.

61



31. *They took* Joseph's *coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the bloud.*

32. *And they sent the coat of many colours, and brought it to their father; and said, this have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.*

33. *And he knew it, and said, it is my sons coat; an evil beast hath devoured him:* Joseph *is without doubt rent in pieces.*

34. *And* Jacob *rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loyns, and mourned for his son many days.*

## XXXIV.

*Joseph tempted by his Mistress, he refuses her; is wrongfully accus'd, and imprison'd.*

*VICE* always is a *Slave*, but *Virtue*'s free:
*Joseph*, tho' *sold*, enjoys his *Liberty*:
His *Master* loves his *Industry* and *Truth*,
His *Lady* views too oft his *blooming Youth*;
Too soon a *lawless Fire* inflames her *Breast*,
Which *robs* her *Mind* of *Peace*, her *Eyes* of *Rest*:
She *looks*, she *sighs*, she *languishes* in vain,
The lovely *Youth* regardless of her Pain:
In vain her *Sex's* well-known *Arts* she tries;
He dares not *trust himself*, nor trust *her Eyes*,
But *shuns* her *sight*, and *conquers* whilst he *flies*.
She still *persists*, so *wild* her *Passion* grown,
Till *Shame*, the last *Reserve* of *Virtue*'s gone:
She *seiz'd* the *Youth*, attacks with *Syrens* Tears,
And tells him what's *unfit for virtuous Ears*:
In vain he *Gratitude* and *Conscience* press'd,
*Blind* to her *Charms*, and *Deaf* to her *Request*,
And *twin'd* at last the *Serpent* from his *Breast*.
With *other Fires* the slighted *Beauty* burns,
*Defeated Lust* to *Hate* and *Vengeance* turns:
Seize, seize the *Ravisher*, aloud she cries,
Resolv'd the guiltless *Youth* to *sacrifice*:
*Silent* he stood, yet *bold*, with no *Defence*
Besides his *Conscience*, and his *Innocence*;
Enrag'd his *Lord* commands; they *drag* him thence;
*Loaden* with *Chains* to *Dungeons* deep convey,
Remov'd from Heav'ns sweet *Light*, and least approach of *Day*.

# XXXIV.

## GENESIS, Chap. XXXIX. from Ver. 7. to 20.

63



V. 7. *His maſters wife caſt her eyes upon* Joſeph; *and ſhe ſaid, Lie with me. But he refuſed,* &c.

11. *And* Joſeph *went into the houſe to do his buſineſs; and there was none of the men of the houſe there within.*

12. *And ſhe caught him by his garment, ſaying lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.*

13. *And it came to paſs, when ſhe ſaw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth.*

14. *That ſhe called unto the men of her houſe,* &c.

XXXV.

## XXXV.

### Pharaoh's *Dreams* Joſeph *interprets them.*

*Ambition ſinks* when *tow'ring* to the *Skies*,
But humble *Virtue* from the *Duſt* ſhall *riſe*:
Young *Joſeph* by his *Chains* illuſtrious grown,
Drawn from the *Dungeon* ſhares great *Pharaoh's* Throne.
Thither he comes to ſave the *ſinking State*,
Forewarn'd by wondrous *Dreams*, and *big* with *Fate*:
As on his *Couch* the *Monarch* ſlumb'ring lay
Theſe *Viſionary Scenes* did *Heav'n* diſplay:
On *Nilus's ſlimy Banks* he thought he ſtood,
And ſaw aſcending from the *Parent-Flood*
*Sev'n* large, and *milk-white Kine*, well fleſh'd and fair,
Which to the *Meadows* ran, and paſtur'd there:
A *ſecond Sev'n* ſucceeds *deform'd* and *lean*;
And, while intent he view'd the *wond'rous Scene*,
Attack the *former*, them they ſoon *o'rpow'r*,
The *Sev'n deform'd* the *beauteous Seven* devour,
Agen he *dreams* -- *Seven Ears* of *Corn* aſcend,
And with their *weight* the Stalk beneath 'em *bend*:
*Sev'n* others them ſucceed, not far behind,
But *thin*, and *blaſted* with the *burning wind*;
Yet theſe with ſpeed *devour* the *Full* and *Fair*.
The King awakes, and ſeiz'd with *anxious Care*
He both th' *important Dreams* to *Joſeph* told,
And thus did he their *myſtic Sence* unfold
The *Dream* is *One*, in various *Figures* dreſs'd,
*Sev'n Years* of *Plenty* are by *both* expreſs'd:
To theſe, *Sev'n Years* of *Famine* ſhall ſucceed,
When *Egypt* all her boaſted *Stores* will need:
When *Plenty* comes, let *Pharaoh* then provide
That thoſe long *barren Years* may be with *Corn* ſupply'd.

# XXXV.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLI. Ver. 14. to 36.

65



v. 15. Pharaoh *ſaid unto* Joſeph, *I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard ſay of thee, that thou canſt underſtand a dream, to interpret it.*

16. *And* Joſeph *anſwered* Pharaoh *ſaying, it is not in me: God ſhall give* Pharaoh *an anſwer of peace,* &c.

26. *The ſeven good kine are ſeven years; and the ſeven good ears are ſeven years: the dream is one.*

27. *And the ſeven thin and ill-favoured kine that came up after them, are ſeven years; and the ſeven empty ears blaſted with the eaſt-wind, ſhall be ſeven years of famine,* &c.

## XXXVI.

### Joſeph's *Preferment. His Marriage, and his Two Children.*

THE Monarch hears with *Joy* and ſtrange *ſurpriſe*,
*Wondrous Young Man*, belov'd of *Heav'n*, he cries,
*Egypt*'s too *poor* a *juſt Reward* to give,
Yet, what a *grateful Nation* can, receive.
My *Viceroy* thou, thro' all my *Realms* obey'd,
To thee their *Saviour*, be their *homage* pay'd.
With ſpeed he bids the bright *Regalia* bring,
And him proclaim their *Father*, and their *King*.
He takes the *Royal Signet* from his *Hand*,
And with it gives unlimited *Command*:
Rich *Chains* of *Gold* his graceful *Neck* adorn,
Which an inglorious *Iron weight* had worn:
High on his ſtately *Chariot* rais'd he rode,
Admir'd, *ador'd* by all the ſhouting *Crowd*.
Nor wants a *Bride* of beauteous *Mind* and *Face*,
*Proud* of his *Heart*, tho ſhe of *Princely Race*:
Two *lovely Sons* ſhe did to *Joſeph* bear;
They *Smile*, and he forgets his former *Care*;
Of *foregone Ills* the very *Trace* remov'd,
*Great* without *Envy*, He, and without *Flatt'ry lov'd*.

# XXXVI.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLI. from Ver. 37. to 45. 50. to 52.



V. 44. Pharaoh *ſaid unto* Joſeph, *I am* Pharaoh, *and without thee ſhall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of* Egypt.

45. *And* Pharaoh *called* Joſeph's *name* Zaphnath-paaneah; *and he gave him to wife* Aſenath *the daughter of* Poti-pherah *prieſt of* On: *and* Joſeph *went out over all the land of* Egypt.

50. *And unto* Joſeph *were born two ſons, before the years of famine came: which* Aſenath *the daughter of* Poti-pherah *prieſt of* On, *bare unto him.*

## XXXVII. Genesis, XLI. *The Famine begins.* Joseph's *Brethren,* &c.

TIME now had ripen'd *Fate*, and on the *Spheres*
Had *ſpun* the firſt, bleſs'd *Week* of *plenteous Years*:
The *Granaries* are *fill'd* by *Joſeph's* Care,
And all againſt th' approaching *Storm* prepare;
Which now arrives, a dreadful *Famine* reigns,
Nor Father *Nile* cou'd bleſs his *Egypts* Plains:
They on their unexhauſted *Stores* rely,
And forein *Regions* can from thence *ſupply*;
Old *Jacob* hears, and ſends his *Sons* to buy;
For *Canaans* fertile Fields their *Want* confeſs,
Scorch'd like *Arabia's Sandy Wilderneſs.*
His *Benjamin* alone behind 'em ſtays,
The *Second Hope* of his declining Days:
The *Ten* to *Egypt* come, by *Joſeph* known,
Tho' to his *Brethren* he a *Stranger* grown:
*Roughly* he asks 'em *whence* they came, and *why?*
*Trembling* and pale, from *Canaan*, they reply
To purchaſe Food -- Rather the Land to ſpy
From *Lubims* waſt, or *Cuſh*, our ancient *Foe*
He fierce, rejoins -- With ſuppliant *Voice* and low
Agen they plead their *Truth*, and thus began,
We once *Twelve happy Sons* of one *Old Man*;
*One* his untimely *Fate* long ſince did find,
The *Youngeſt* with his *Father* ſtays behind.
Let this appear, you vindicate your Truth;
Replies the *Prince*, but go, and bring the *Youth*:
The while this *Pledge* ſhall your *Return* ſecure,
Or juſt *Rewards* of broken *Faith* endure.
*Simeon*, to *Blood* and *Murder* moſt inclin'd
When *him* they *ſold*, he bids his *Servants* bind;
The reſt return with *Corn*, he ſtays in *Chains* behind.

XXXVIII.

## XXXVIII. Genesis, Chap. XLIII. XLIV.

THeir num'rous *Houſhold* ſoon *exhauſt* their ſtore
Lean *Want* appears, and makes 'em *wiſh* for *more*
Yet dare they not to *Mizraims* Fields repair,
Their *Brother* left in *Chains* an *Hoſtage* there,
Unleſs the *Youngeſt* now the *Journy* ſhare:
Their *mournful Father* yields a *forc'd aſſent*,
Away his *Benjamin*, his *Darling* went:
At length arriv'd at *Joſeph's Princely Seat*
He mildly with 'em thus begins to treat.
And does th' *Old Sire* of whom ye ſpake, ſtill *ſhare*
The *cheerful Light*, and taſt th' *Ætherial Air?*
He does, Great Sir! tho' *Old* and full of *Days*,
The *Ten* reply, and for your *Welfare prays*.
Agen he views 'em with attentive *Eyes*,
And *Benjamin* among the *Crowd* eſpies;
With haſt he *flees* to his retir'd *Alcove*,
And vents in *Show'rs* of *Tears*, *fraternal Love*,
Returning ſoon, he *treats* his *Hebrew Friends*,
And loaden back with *Corn*, rejoicing ſends:
But *ſhort* their *Joy*, and but in vain their *Haſt*,
The *Steward* had a *maſſy Goblet* plac'd,
So *Joſeph* will'd, within the *Youngers* Sack;
He ſoon o'rtakes, and brings 'em trembling back:
The *fatal Bowl* with *Benjamin* was found
And he *ſecur'd*; when *proſtrate* on the *Ground*
Thus *Judah* pleads -- on *me*, on *me*, let all
The *Guilt* and *Puniſhment* unpity'd fall:
But, Oh! this *unadverting Youth* forgive!
Let *him*, or rather let his *Father* live!
If *him* he miſs, he *dies*, nor dar'd we come
Till I his *Surety* to return him *home*:
*Here* rather let me *fall*, if *fall* I muſt,
Than bring my *aged Sire* with *Sorrow* to the *Duſt*.

## XXXIX. Joseph *makes himself known to his Brethren. He sends for his Father.*

NO longer *Joseph* cou'd himself *refrain*,
But struggling *Nature* broke th' *uneasie Chain*:
He bids 'em *clear* the *Room*, the *Crowd* obey,
And none besides his *Wond'ring Brethren* stay;
Then -- *I am Joseph*, said, nor *needed* more,
Tho' humbly *prostrate* on the *Earth* before,
They'd now have *farther* gone, and wish its *Womb*,
And darkest *Shades* their kind immediate *Tomb*:
Agen with *gentle words* their minds he *chears*,
And with reviving *Smiles* dispells their *Fears*:
The *Youngest* first embrac'd with *friendly Tears*,
Then all the *Rest*; he bids their *Grief* forbear
For God to *save* their *Lives* had plac'd him *there*
Five dreadful *Years* of *Famine* yet remain,
No *Harvest* shou'd requite the *Tiller*'s Pain:
Return, my *aged Father* bring with haste,
I'll *feed* you all until the *Dearth* be pass'd:
Of *Egypt*'s *Dainties* he a *Present* sends,
And bids 'em on the way continue *Friends*.
Arriv'd they to their *aged Sire* relate
His *Joseph*'s *Glory* and his alter'd *Fate*:
Too big th' unwieldy Joy, too vast the News,
Long did his fainting Heart, *Belief* refuse:
But when he saw the *Carriages* appear,
And did his pious Sons kind *message* hear;
*Forgotten Joy* shines in his lightn'd *Eyes*,
And thus the *aged Sire* in *Extasies*:
" Shall these *chill Veins* new *Life* and *Warmth* re-
" And does my *lost lamented Joseph live?* (ceive,
" Tho' *long* the *Journey*, all my *Strength* I'll try
" To *see* and *bless* my *Son*, my *Joseph*, e'r I *die*.

XXXIX.

# XXXIX.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLV. Ver. 1. to 16.

71



v. 1. *Then* Joſeph *could not refrain himſelf before all them that ſtood by him; and he cried, cauſe every man to go out from me: and there ſtood no man with him, while* Joſeph *made himſelf known unto his brethren.*

v. 13. *And ſaid, ye ſhall tell my father,* &c. *and ye ſhall haſte, and bring down my father hither.*

14. *And he fell upon his brother* Benjamin's *neck, and wept; and* Benjamin *wept upon his neck.*

15. *Moreover, he kiſſed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that, his brethren talked with him.*

## XL.

### Jacob *with his Family goes into* Egypt, Joseph *meets him; and presents him, and Five of his Brethren to* Pharaoh.

FOR *Zoan*'s Fields, and deep retentive *lay*
Old *Jacob* thro' the *Desert* takes his way;
Agen he sees his much-lov'd *Joseph*'s *Face*
Who from his *Chariot* leaps and runs with *Tears* to his Embrace:
Then brings to *Court* the *Venerable Sire*;
The *Nobles* press to see him, and *admire*,
Ev'n *Pharaoh* not *disdains* to ask his *Age*:
--- *Evil* and *short* has been my *Pilgrimage*,
A *Century* and *Half* t' has not *surpass'd*,
Tho' *longer* far my *Ancestors* did last.
He *said*, and *bless'd* the *King*, and from him went,
And *Joseph* next his *Brethren* did present;
*Five* of the *Tallest* and of graceful *Mien*,
By *Pharaoh* not *unworthy* to be *seen*:
He asks 'em, what their way of *Life* had been?
-- They -- We from our *Youth* were humble *Swains*,
And us'd to *feed* our *Flocks* in *Canaans Plains*,
But all our *Pastures* now are *scorch'd* and *burn'd*,
And like *Arabia*'s Sandy *Deserts* turn'd:
To You, Great Sir! we all for *Refuge* fly,
Without your *Aid*, our famish'd *Flocks* must die,
In *Goshens* fertile *Fields* we beg to rest.
The Monarch *hears*, and *smiles*, and *grants* 'em their *Request*,

XL.

# XL.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLVI. XLVII. to Ver. 11.

73



Chap. xlvi. 29. Joſeph *made ready his chariot, and went up to meet* Iſrael *his father, to* Goſhen, &c.

xlvii. *And he took ſome of his brethren, even five men, and preſented them unto* Pharaoh, &c.

7. *And* Joſeph *brought in* Jacob *his father, and ſet him before* Pharaoh: *and* Jacob *bleſſed* Pharaoh.

8. *And* Pharaoh *ſaid unto* Jacob, *how old art thou?*

9. *And* Jacob *ſaid unto* Pharaoh, *the days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.*

XL.

## XLI.

### Jacob's *laſt Sickneſs. He ſends for* Joſeph, *and bleſſes his Two Sons.*

AND now the *Patriarch* finds his *Sp'rits* decay,
And drooping *Life* wear ſilently away:
His ſinking *Eyes*, heavy with *Cares* and *Age*
Approaching *Death*'s long *Iron Sleep* preſage:
For *Joſeph*, e'r he muſt the World *forſake*,
He ſends, his *long*, his *laſt Adieu* to take:
His *Life*'s weak *Lamp* gave yet one cheerful *blaze*,
When he *arrives*; he tries himſelf to *raiſe*,
And *bleſs* his Son, who lowly *Rev'rence* pay'd,
While thus with *pain* th' expiring *Patriarch* ſaid:
Grieve not my Son! *mature* I yield to *Fate*,
I've *liv'd enough*, nor ask a *longer Date*:
Yet *one Requeſt* you muſt not me deny,
Swear to perform't and I in *Peace* ſhall die:
'Tis -- that in *Canaan* you'd my *Bones* inter,
In *Ephron*'s Field, and *Abraham*'s Sepulcher:
He gave his *Oath*, and *firm'd* his laſt *Requeſt*,
His *Children* brought, and them the *Patriarch* bleſs'd:
His Hands *tranſverſe*, his *Right* the *Younger* grac'd,
And on the *Elder*'s Head his *Left* was plac'd:
*Joſeph* diſpleas'd, to *move* 'em vainly try'd,
*Unerring Fate* his *palſied Hands* did Guide.
My *Ephraim!* thee thy *Father*'s God ſhall *bleſs*,
Inſpir'd he cries, *Manaſſeh* only *leſs*:
Thy *Brother*, *Great*, but thou ſhalt *Greater* be,
And *Nations* like the *Sand* unnumber'd flow from *Thee*.

# XLI.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLVII. from Ver. 29. to the End of Chap. XLVIII.

75



Chap. xlviii. v. 8. Iſrael *beheld* Joſeph's *ſons, and ſaid who are theſe?*

9. *And* Joſeph *ſaid unto his father, they are my ſons, whom God hath given me in this place: and he ſaid, bring them, I pray thee unto me, and I will bleſs them.*

13. *And* Joſeph *took them both, and brought them near unto him.*

14. *And* Iſrael *ſtretched out his right hand, and laid it upon* Ephraim's *head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon* Manaſſeh's *head: guiding his hand wittingly; for* Manaſſeh *was the firſt-born.*

## XLII.

## GENESIS, Chap. XLIX.

### Jacob *calls his Sons, and bleſſes them.*

ONE *Labour* for the *Patriarch* yet remains
E'r *Death* muſt looſe *exhauſted* Nature's *Chains*;
He calls his *Sons*, and thus their *Fates* explains.
*REUBEN*, my Might, my Strength! but *Reuben fell*;
*Unſtable* he as *Water*, can't *excell*:
His *Youth* with ſhameful *Inceſt* did abuſe
His Father's *Bed*, and muſt his *Birthright* loſe:
Which *LEVI* and fierce *SIMEON* hope in vain,
Their *Swords* in *Blood*, and guilty *Hands* they ſtain:
'Tis *JUDAH* ſhall that envied *Honour* gain.
Nor, *Judah!* ſhall thy regal *Race* expire
Till the *Great Shiloh* come, the *Nations* long *Deſire*.
From *Sea* to *Sea* ſhall *ZEBULON* extend,
At ancient *Sidon* ſhall his *Border* end.
Rich *ISSACHAR!* be rather *Safe* than *Brave!*
Inglorious *Eaſe* he'll chuſe, a *Wealthy Slave*.
The Sacred Rod of Juſtice, *DAN* ſhall wield,
By *Art* prevail, too *Weak* for open *Field*.
The wand'ring Sons of *Iſhmael GAD* ſhall quell:
In Royal Dainties *ASHER* ſhall excel:
*Soft Words* for *NAPHTHALI* his Freedom gain,
Like a *Swift Hind* he ſhoots acroſs the *Plain*.
*JOSEPH!* thy *Branches* like a fruitful *Vine*
Shall *ſhade* the *Walls*, and round the *Cedars* twine!
Deep,

Deep, deep thy *Root*, as is th' *Abyſs below*,
And o'r th' *Eternal Hills* ſhall thy fair *Branches* go:
Not famiſh'd *Wolves* dart keener at their *Prey*
Than *BENJAMIN* his trembling *Foes* ſhall ſlay,
Thus his enlightn'd *Mind* their *Fates* expreſs'd,
Then loos'd from *mortal Chains* ſhe *wings* for endleſs *Reſt*.

## XLIII.

## GENESIS, Chap. L. Ver. 1. to 13.

### Joſeph *buries* Jacob *in* Canaan.

ON *Iſrael*'s *Face* the pious *Joſeph* fell,
And dear *Remains* of him he *lov'd* ſo *well*.
Then for his *Stately Funeral Pomp* prepares,
And him, *embalm'd*, to native *Canaan* bears.
*Due Honours* to his *Herſe* the *Nobles* pay,
And o'r the Sandy *Deſerts* him convey:
Fair *Jordan*'s Streams diſturb'd with *Tears* they paſs'd,
In *Paleſtina*'s Fields arriv'd at laſt,
Near *Atad*'s *Floor* in *regal ſtate* he lay,
And thence to *Ephron*'s *Cave* they him convey:
In *Solemn Ranks* the veſted *Mourners* go,
*Joſeph* the *Chief*: *ſilent* they *march* and *ſlow*:
How *ſad* a *Scene*! how *vaſt* a *Pomp* of *Woe*!
The wond'ring *Natives* crowd, and ask the *cauſe*
So large a *Troop* from *Mizraim*'s Regions draws:
The *Place*'s name preſerves the Great *Event*,
Which down from thence *unchang'd* to diſtant Ages went.

XLIV.

## XLIV.

Joseph *dies.* *The* Israelites *afflicted.* Moses *born, expos'd, found, and brought up by* Pharaoh's *Daughter, who adopts him for her Son.*

EV'N *Kings* are *Dust* nor all their *Pow'r* can save
*Themselves* or deareſt *Fav'rites* from the *Grave*:
*Pharaoh* is *dead*, and *Joseph* is the ſame,
Ungrateful *Egypt* ſoon *forgets* his Name:
A *King aroſe* a Foe to *Iſrael*'s Seed,
As ſoon as *born* their Sons are doom'd to *bleed*.
*MOSES* of *Levi*'s Race, *divinely Fair*,
Did his ſad Mother then to *Amram* bear:
A while the *lovely Infant* did conceal,
At length leſt *envious eyes* ſhou'd him reveal,
Did in an *Ark* of *Bulruſhes* incloſe,
And to the *Mercy* of the *Waves* expoſe:
The *Waves* themſelves than *Tyrant-Man* more mild,
Safe on their *Boſoms* waft the lovely *Child*.
As *Pharaoh*'s *Daughter* did to *Nile* repair
To pay miſtaken *Adorations* there,
The Infant ſhe among the *Ruſhes* ſpies,
Nor him beholds with *unrelenting* Eyes:
To his glad *Mother* him commits *unknown*,
And when he paſt his tender *Childhood* grown
Adopts the envy'd *Youth* a *Kinſman* to the *Throne*.

# XLIV.

## EXODUS, Chap. I. Ver. 6. 8. 16. II. 1. to 10.

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v. 3. *When his mother could no longer hide him, ſhe took for him an ark of bulruſhes, and daubed it with ſlime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and ſhe laid it upon the rivers brink.*

4. *And his ſiſter ſtood afar off, to ſee what would be done to him.*

5. *And the daughter of* Pharaoh *came down to waſh her ſelf at the river, and her maidens walked along by the rivers ſide: and when ſhe ſaw the ark among the flags, ſhe ſent her maid to fetch it.*

6. *And when ſhe had opened it, ſhe ſaw the child: and behold the babe wept,* &c.

## XLV.

### Moſes *viſits his Brethren. Kills an* Egyptian.

THis *Riſing Sun* attracts the *Courtiers Eyes*,
Who *Wiſdom*'s ſhar'd at once, and *Beauty*'s Prize,
Yet all their *gawdy ſhows* he cou'd deſpiſe.
Afflicted *Virtue* meanly to diſown
He thinks too dear a *Rate* to gain a *Throne*:
His *Hebrew Brethren* now no more unknown,
Tho' for their *Thraldom* he cou'd only *grieve*,
And *mourn* the *Wrongs* he cou'd not *yet relieve*.
*Pharaoh* he left, he left the pompous *Court*,
And to th' afflicted *Hebrews* did reſort:
He found 'em *faint* beneath their *ſervile load*,
The *Deſart* ſprinkled with their *Tears* and *Blood*.
*Compaſſion* in his *gen'rous Soul* did riſe,
And juſt *Reſentment* ſparkled in his *Eyes*:
Too many *miſerable Objects* there
His *Temper* try'd, but *One* he cou'd not *bear*:
He ſaw a cruel *Maſter* ſeize his *Slave*,
*Reſiſting* tho' *unarm'd*, and vainly *Brave*:
Mov'd by the ſacred *Sp'rit* his *Sword* he drew,
And to his injur'd *Brother*'s reſcue flew:
Deep in th' *Invader*'s *Breaſt* the *Weapon* drives,
And his warm *Heart* the deadly *Point* receives:
Curſing he *falls*, and kicks the *Sandy Ground*,
And his black *Blood* and *Soul* ruſh mingled thro' the *Wound*.

XLVI.

## XLVI. Exodus, Chap. II. Ver. 15. to 21.

ENrag'd the *Tyrant* of proud *Memphis* hears,
And deep *Revenge* againſt the *Hero* ſwears;
A *Price* is ſet on his devoted *Head*,
To *Midian*'s Fields the *glorious Exile* fled;
And, as the *Sun*, in *Weſtern Waves* deſcends,
The *Pilgrim* too his weary *Journy* ends.
O *happy Age* when *Innocence* did reign,
When *Shepherds* rul'd, and *Kings* did not diſdain
To *guard* their fleecy *Houſholds* on the Plain!
Good *Jethro* held, of theſe, the *foremoſt* Place,
A *Prieſt* and *Prince* of holy *Abra'ms* Race:
Sev'n beautious *Daughters* bleſs'd his *Nuptial Bed*,
On *flow'ry Banks* their Father's *Flocks* they fed;
By *Day* they fed, and cooler *Evening* come,
The lovely *Shepherdeſſes* drive 'em home.
A *Well* there was, deep in the *native Rocks*,
Whence all the *Plains* refreſh'd their fainting *Flocks*:
When *Jethro*'s there among the reſt arrive
The churliſh *Shepherds* thence his *Daughters* drive:
-- Nor *Moſes* this -- "Is't thus you *treat* the *Fair*?
"Hence, or the juſt *Rewards* of *Rudeneſs* bear!
--- He ſaid, and did for more than *Words* prepare:
*Diffident* of their *Number*'s weak defence
The frighted *Clowns* in troops run murm'ring thence:
The *Flocks* ſuffic'd they homeward haſte, and tell
With *Moſes* and the *Ruſticks* what befell:
--- And have ye left the *gen'rous Stranger* there,
Expos'd in *Fields* to cold *nocturnal Air*,
Their Father anſwers -- ſtrait his *Servants* ſent
And brought him to his *hoſpitable* Tent:
His *Faith*, his *Courage*, and his *Prudence* try'd
He begs he'd not diſdain his *Flocks* to guide,
And made fair *Zipporah* his *well-contented Bride*.

## XLVII.

### *God appears to* Moſes *in a Burning Buſh.*

TO *Horeb Moſes* leads his bleating Charge,
And feeds 'em there in *Paſtures* freſh and large:
Hanging they graze the Sacred Mountain's ſide,
A moſſy Hillock bears their careful Guide:
Rare *Myrtle* Shrubs around at diſtance ſeen,
The Friendly *Palm*, and *Cypreſs* Ever-Green.
As he the Sylvan Scene with Pleaſure views
By gentle motion dreſs'd in various Hews,
A hollow wind comes whiſp'ring thro' the Leaves,
The ſolid Rock with dire Convulſions cleaves:
The largeſt Buſh, and fairer than the reſt
He ſaw in harmleſs Flames, and Lambent Lightnings dreſs'd.
Tho' ſtrange, tho' wondrous ſtrange the Sight appear. (Fear,
The Saint who knew no Guilt cou'd know no
And to the *Burning Buſh* approaches near:
When from the Flames a Voice like Thunder broke,
And *Moſes* in theſe awful Words beſpoke:
" Thy Sandals quickly looſe, bold mortal, and retire,
" This Place is Holy Ground, and God is in the Fire.
" The God of *Abraham*, I, and all his favour'd Race.
The Prophet heard and kneel'd, and trembling, veil'd his Face: (unknown
When thus the Voice goes on -- " To me are not
" Afflicted *Iſrael*'s Tears, I number every Groan:
"Under their cruel *Lords* no longer ſhall they grieve;
" From my own Heav'n I come to pity, and relieve.
" From *Egypt*'s Slaviſh Bands ſhalt thou my Flock convey (Way:
" To *Canaans* happy Fields, my ſelf I'll ſhow the

# XLVII.

## EXODUS, Chap. III. Ver. 2. to 8.




v. 2. *The Angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire, out of the midſt of a buſh: and he looked, and behold, the buſh burned with fire, and the buſh was not conſumed.*

6. *God ſaid, I am the God of thy father, the God of* Abraham, *the God of* Iſaac, *and the God of* Jacob. *And* Moſes *hid his face: for he was afraid to look upon God.*

7. *And the Lord ſaid, I have ſurely ſeen the affliction of my people which are in* Egypt, *and have heard their cry, by reaſon of their task-maſters: for I know their ſorrows,* &c.

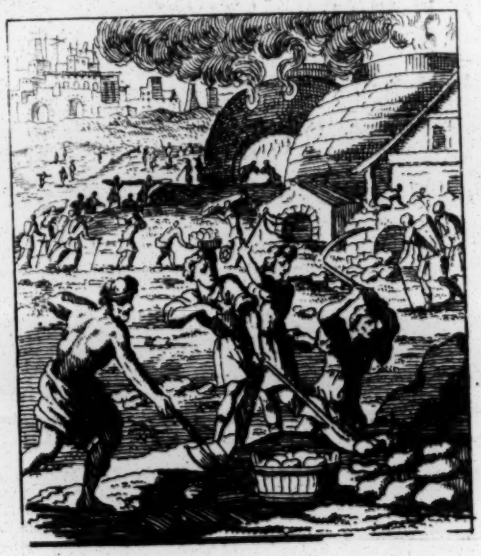
## XLVIII. Moſes *and* Aaron *go in unto* Pharaoh. *He refuſes to let* Iſrael *go, and increaſes their Oppreſſion.*

HIS Pow'rs receiv'd, he Heav'ns dread Envoy goes
His Friends to reſcue, and confound their Foes,
Great *Aaron* in th' Auguſt Commiſſion joyn'd,
The future *Ephod* to adorn, deſign'd.
Undaunted they to *Pharaoh*'s Court repair,
And Audience gain'd, their Embaſſy declare,
From God, the Lord of Hoſts, who all things made,
From *Iſrael*'s God they come, and thus they ſaid:
Diſmiſs my People who my Name confeſs,
To Sacrifice in *Etham*'s Wilderneſs.
When thus the haughty Tyrant from his Throne?
Can any God be in my Realms unknown?
Who is the Lord, that I reſpect ſhou'd pay
To his Commands? I'll not his Words obey.
Have *Hebrews* nothing elſe to do but Pray?
Other Employ I'll find -- Impoſtors go,
Or you the weight of Royal Hands ſhall know.
Guards - See that ſtricter Care their Maſters take!
Of Bricks their wonted Number ſee they make!
Diminiſh nought, but let no Straw be giv'n:
They're Idle, and wou'd fain go play with Heav'n.
He ſaid, his ready Miniſters obey:
Thro' all the Land for Straw the *Hebrews* ſtray;
With this their Time conſum'd, their Tale was leſs,
Remorſeleſs Stripes their Officers oppreſs,
To *Pharaoh* they complain but no Redreſs.
They the Great Brethren met, and them accus'd,
Their Words had but their eaſie Faith abus'd.
Their Meſſage falſe, their Promiſes in vain,
And only added Weight to their inglorious Chain.

# XLVIII.

## EXODUS, Chap. V. from Ver. 1. to 21.

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v. 1. Moſes *and* Aaron *went in and told* Pharaoh, *thus ſaith the Lord God of* Iſrael, *let my people go, that they may hold a feaſt unto me in the wilderneſs,* &c.

6. *And* Pharaoh *commanded ſaying,*

7. *Ye ſhall no more give the people ſtraw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather ſtraw for themſelves.*

8. *And the tale of the bricks which they did make heretofore, you ſhall lay upon them; you ſhall not diminiſh ought thereof: for they are idle; therefore they cry, ſaying, Let us go and ſacrifice to our God.*

## XLIX.

*God encourages* Moſes. *He goes agen to* Pharaoh. *His Rod becomes a Serpent, and ſwallows up the Rods of the Sorcerers.*

IMpatient Man in troubles will not ſtay
For his Relief, till Heav'n can find the way:
Joy oft is near when we of Joy deſpair,
A Storm ſucceeds a Calm, and Thunder clears the Air,
Ev'n doubtful *Moſes* ſelf confeſs'd the Man,
When thus to him his Fathers God began.
I AM, I WAS, and ſtill ſhall be the ſame,
Th' Immutable *Jehovah* is my Name:
A God to *Pharaoh* Thou, as I to thee;
Thou mine, and *Aaron* ſhall thy Prophet be.
With Plagues on Plagues I'll harden'd *Egypt* ſcourge,
Till they themſelves your wiſh'd Departure urge.
But firſt with Wonders I'll your miſſion ſign,
Their Sence compell'd to own a Pow'r divine:
That Rod thou bear'ſt, when on the Marble thrown
Before their Eyes a *creſted Serpent* grown:
Encourag'd they agen to *Pharaoh* goe,
And on the ground their wondrous *Rod* they throw,
Which in an inſtant did a *Snake* become,
Whoſe bloody Eyes ſhot Flames around the Room:

The

The harden'd *Tyrant* calls, his *Charmers* came,
And by their *helliſh Magic* did the ſame:
But th' active *Hebrew Serpent* theirs purſues,
Breaks their ſtrong Backs, and does their *Charms* unlooſe:
By Heav'n commiſſion'd with Superior Pow'rs,
Seizes on all the reſt, and them devours:
Then glides a harmleſs *Worm* around the Room,
And does in *Aaron's* Hand its wonted *Form* reſume

## EXODUS, Chap. V. Ver. 22. VI. 2 3. VII. 1. to 12.

Chap. vi. 2. *God ſpake unto* Moſes, *and ſaid unto him, I am the Lord:*

3. *And I appeared unto* Abraham, *unto* Iſaac, *and unto* Jacob, *by the name of God Almighty, but by my name* Jehova *was I not known to them*, &c.

Chap. vii. 10. Moſes *and* Aaron *went in unto* Pharaoh, *and they did as the Lord had commanded: and* Aaron *caſt down his rod before* Pharaoh, *and before his ſervants, and it became a ſerpent.*

11. *Then* Pharaoh *called the wiſemen, and the ſorcerers: now the magicians of* Egypt, *they alſo did in like manner with their inchantments.*

12. *For they caſt down every man his rod, and they became ſerpents: but* Aarons *rod ſwallowed up their rods*, &c.

## L.

### *The Waters turned into Blood. Frogs are ſent.*

*Egypt* their helpleſs Gods in vain may pray,
Their helpleſs Gods are plagu'd as much as they.
Ev'n *Nile*, their *Jove*, if whoſe rich Streams o'rflow
No Thanks th' Ungrateful think to Heav'n they ow,
Stagnates, and ſtinks, and all its ſev'n-mouth'd Flood,
Direful Portent! rolls with a Sea of Blood:
Satiate with what they did ſo long deſire
The cruel Natives now for Thirſt expire:
Nor this alone; what e'r in Myſtic Stile:
They dream of Creatures from the Slime of *Nile*,
See now its animated Waters roll,
And every Drop ſwell with imperfect Soul!
Myriades of *Frogs* from thence at Heaven's command
March from the River, and invade the Land:
For Nature's ſlow Production will not ſtay,
Born in a Moment, perfect in a Day.
To *Pharaoh*'s Court they preſs, and ſlight his Guard;
Like factious Crowds they ſwarm, and will be heard:
Importunate, as hungry Courtiers, grown,
His Levee wait, and croak around the Throne;
On his Rich Beds their ſlimy Members place,
" A Luxury unknown before to all their watry Race,

# L.

## Exodus, Chap. VII. Ver. 20. 21. Chap. VIII. Ver. 3. to 6.

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Chap. viii. V. 1. *Thus ſaith the Lord, if thou refuſe to let my people go, behold, I will ſmite all thy borders with frogs.*

3. *And the river ſhall bring forth frogs abundantly, which ſhall go up and come into thine houſe, and into thy bed chamber, and upon thy bed, and into the houſe of thy ſervants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneading-troughs.*

4. *And the frogs ſhall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy ſervants.*

## LI.

### *Lice and Flies are ſent.*

AS Storms of Hail on Stones deſcending, ſound,
But can't their ſolid Texture pierce, or wound,
So, doubled Plagues the Tyrant's Heart affright,
Yet ſtill obdurate he renews the Fight.
Tho' now the Frogs remov'd by *Moſes* Pray'r,
Juſt Heav'n can ſoon another ſcourge prepare:
The meaneſt Worm commiſſion'd, proves the Rod
And weighty Plague of an avenging God:
From *Lice*, th' uncleanly Torment of the Poor,
Not *Pharaoh*'s Robes can *Pharaohs* ſelf ſecure:
Obſcene and large, of an uncommon kind,
The like his Sorc'rers cou'd not make or find:
They own their Art out done: they own this Sign
Th' inimitable Work of Hands divine.
Still the relentleſs King his Rage renews,
Tho' ſtill juſt Heav'n with vengeful Plagues purſues:
On *Egypt* came a dreadful ſwarm of Flies,
Of countleſs number, and of monſtrous ſize,
Of painful Bite, and of moleſtful Sound;
Both Night and Day they fly their endleſs round
Until their Soul is left in each vexatious Wound.
In diſmal Clouds they hover o'r the Coaſt,
" And *Accaron*, their Airy Prince led forth their va-
rious Hoſt.

## LII.

### *The Murrain and Blain.*

A Dreadful Murrain next infects the Air,
And when Beaſts die, their Maſters muſt prepare.
The gen'rous Steed, ready equipp'd for Race,
Pawing the Ground, and eager of the Chace,
Swallowing the diſtant Goal with alter'd Eyes
Unwilling to forego th' expected Prize
Beneath th' incumbred Rider falls, and dies.
The lab'ring Oxen, as they ſweating come,
And bring the Plough with weary Footſteps home
With doubled Knees drop on the printed Clay,
And in deep murmurs groan their Souls away.
The painful Camels loſe their Maſters hire,
The milky Mothers o'r the Pails expire.
The Aſs, which late his Lady proudly bore
Sinks in his Stall, and loves the Crib no more:
Vex'd Air he with his quiv'ring Hoofs does wound
As his ſtrong creſted Shoulders ſtrike the Ground.
The Sheep, their wealthy Maſters envy'd ſtore
Which *Wool* well worthy *Tyrian Purple* bore,
Struck with the ſudden Plague forget to graze,
Their ſunk dim Eye, their inward Pain betrays:
Each ſtaggers from the next; in vain he tries
His wonted wholſome Herbs, and bleating dies.
Their Maſters ſcarce eſcape, the pois'nous Air
Infects their Blood, but yet their Lives did ſpare:
Tortur'd with noiſom Blains no eaſe they find,
Forerunners of the Plague that yet remain'd behind.

## LIII.

### *The Plague of Hail.*

NEW poignant Arrows from th' Almighty's Bow,
Tranſfix th' unjuſt, the guilty Land o'rthrow,
Still unreform'd: His fearleſs Heralds came,
And War againſt their impious King proclaim.
"Thus ſaith the Lord, my People muſt depart,
"Or all my Plagues ſhall centre in thy Heart.
"For this I ſuffer'd thee to fill the Throne,
"To make my Pow'r and Juſtice widely known;
"To vindicate my Honour and my Laws;
"For this permitting what I did not cauſe.
"If thou refuſe, my Stores I'll open wide,
"And quickly humble all thy Nation's Pride:
"My Magazines of Cold and Heat diſcloſe,
"Whence mingled Fire and Hail ſhall blaſt my Foes.
No Threatnings make the wayward King relent,
He Steels his Heart, unknowing to repent:
When, ſee the muſt'ring angry Storms on high!
Behold the ruddy Vengeance ſtreak the Skie!
The diſembowel'd Clouds diſcharge their ſtore,
File off in haſte, and ſtill make room for more;
Whence Fire and Hail in Ruin reconcil'd,
Swept the ſad Earth, the future Harveſt ſpoil'd:
Amazing Thunders thro' the Welkin drive,
As the vaſt Cryſtal Orb itſelf wou'd rive.
The Trees no more their heavy Honours wear,
Like broken Arms their ſhiver'd Boughs appear:

Tall

Tall *Pyramids* their Airy Summits ſhake,
Deep fix'd in Earth their broad Foundations quake:
No mortal Force the Tempeſt cou'd ſuſtain,
But Beaſts, and Trees, and Men, lie ſcatter'd o'r the Plain.

## EXODUS, Chap. VIII. IX.

Chap. viii. V. 16. *The Lord ſaid unto* Moſes, *ſay unto* Aaron, *ſtretch out thy rod, and ſmite the duſt of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of* Egypt.

17. *And they did ſo; for* Aaron *ſtretched out his hand with his rod, and ſmote the duſt of the earth, and it became lice, in man and beaſt: all the duſt of the land became lice throughout all the land of* Egypt.

Chap. ix. V. 3. *Behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thy cattel which is in the field, upon the horſes, upon the aſſes, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the ſheep: there ſhall be a very great murrain,* &c.

23. Moſes *ſtretched forth his rod toward heaven, and the Lord ſent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the Lord rained hail upon the land of* Egypt.

24. *So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, ſuch as there was none like it in all the land of* Egypt, *ſince it became a nation.*

25. *And the hail ſmote throughout all the land of* Egypt, *all that was in the field, both man and beaſt: and the hail ſmote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.*

## LIV.

## *The* LOCUSTS.

EV'N *Atheiſts* ſeem couragious while 'tis fair;
But can't the threatning Storms, and Thunder bear:
*Pharaoh*, of late ſo haughty and ſo proud
Now hides his Face, for *Moſes* calls aloud:
O bring that Holy Man, if not too late,
His Pray'rs may ſave us from impending Fate!
He came, he heard, for trembling *Pharaoh* pray'd,
Who promis'd all, -- but *Pharaoh*'s now afraid:
This Death remov'd, he heeds his Vows no more,
His melted Iron, harder than before:
When over trembling *Egypt*'s guilty Land
Agen the Prophet ſtretch'd his fatal Wand:
The *Locuſts* come, their Quarters were aſſign'd,
Their Convoy was the burning *Eaſtern* Wind:
Their ſounding Wings the ſtooping Plague foreſhow,
A dusky Twilight veils the World below.
The tender Graſs which new from Earth aroſe,
The ſpiring Wheat, which promis'd Harveſt ſhows;
If any Herbs, or ſtraggling Leaves remain,
If ought that's Green had ſcap'd the Hail in vain,
Theſe famiſh'd *Libyan* Troops the Country ſcour,
And bare as Earth the riſing Blade devour.
The Trees they bark; like Skeletons they ſtand,
Or Maſts of Shipwreck'd Fleets in ſight of Land.
What Foes to Man are Unbelief, and Vice,
Which to a Deſart thus can turn a Paradiſe!

# LIV.

## EXODUS, Chap. IX. Ver. 27. to End. Chap. X. Ver. 13. to 15.




Chap. x. V. 12. Moſes *ſtretched forth his rod over the land of* Egypt, *and the Lord brought an eaſt-wind upon the land all that day, and all that night: and when it was morning, the eaſt-wind brought the locuſts.*

14. *And the locuſts went up over all the land of* Egypt, *and reſted in all the coaſts of* Egypt: *very grievous were they; before them there were no ſuch locuſts as they, neither after them ſhall be ſuch.*

15. *For they covered the face of the whole earth, ſo that the land was darkned, and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees, which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of* Egypt.

## LV.

## *The Ninth Plague. Thick Darkneſs in* Egypt. *Light in* Goſhen.

NO warning did the Ninth dread Plague foreſhow,
Like Thunder, where the Bolt outflies the Blow:
(Who play with Heav'n, their Day of Mercy paſs'd;
A ſudden Vengeance them ſhall ſeize at laſt.)
On all the Land prodigious Darkneſs fell,
It fill'd the Heav'ns, tho' it aroſe from Hell;
Their Lamps extinct, their Fires no cheerful Ray
Emitt, but trembling in their Aſhes lay:
If any Gleams of ghaſtly Light appear
Acroſs the Shades, they only raiſe their Fear,
While boding Shrieks, and diſmal Yells they hear:
While many a Fiend, with fierce and bloodſhot Eye
Dire Faces and deform'd, ſhoot glaring by:
Only their Parents Ghoſts wou'd longer ſtay,
With hollow Murmurs beckning them away:
Where e'r at firſt they ſtood, where e'r they lay,

Like

Like Statues fix'd the Wretches ſtill remain,
Bound with a more than Adamantine Chain:
While happy *Goſhen* cheerful Light enjoy'd,
While in their Great Redeemer's Praiſe employ'd,
They ſaw the Pitchy Darkneſs roll from far
In helliſh Fogs, without one friendly Star.
From *Abraham*'s Boſom thus bleſs'd Souls ſurvey,
The Dungeons of the Damn'd, and Realms remov'd from Day.

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## EXODUS, Chap. X. Ver. 21. to 23.

21. *The Lord ſaid unto* Moſes, *ſtretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkneſs over the land of* Egypt, *even darkneſs which may be felt.*

22. *And* Moſes *ſtretched forth his hand toward heaven: and there was a thick darkneſs in all the land of* Egypt *three days.*

23. *They ſaw not one another, neither roſe any from his place for three days: but all the children of* Iſrael *had light in their dwellings.*

## LVI.

### *The Paſſover inſtituted.*

JEHOVA ſpake --One Plague I yet will bring
On ſtubborn *Egypt*, and their faithleſs King;
Then ſhall they ſoon diſmiſs my People thence,
And thruſt 'em from them in their own Defence.
Their Sons, their dear Firſt-born, their Strength and Might
The Peſtilence ſhall ſlay: One fatal Night
Shall ſweep them all, but *Iſrael* ſhall be free,
And juſt Revenge on their Oppreſſors ſee.
A Spotleſs Lamb let every Houſe prepare,
And every Soul the ſacred Banquet ſhare.
With Sandals on your Feet, proclaiming haſt,
And Staff in Hand I order this Repaſt,
Which ſhall to immemorial Ages laſt.
The Blood which from the dying Victim flows,
When ſeen, where my deſtroying Angel goes
On his dread Meſſage, ſprinkled o'r the Gate,
Shall ſave you from the ſudden ſtroke of Fate:
That ſacred Sign ſhall every Houſe defend,
Th' Almighty's Sword ſhall ſpare th' Almighty's Friend;
But bath'd in Blood, and red with ſlaughter come
From *Egypt*'s Sons in Triumph reaking home.
Glad *Iſrael* hear, adoring they obey'd,
And for the laſt, the great Deciſive Moment ſtaid.

# LVI.

## EXODUS, Chap. XII. Ver. 3. to 28.

99



V. 3. *In the tenth day of this month they ſhall take to them every man a lamb, according to the houſe of their fathers, a lamb for an houſe.*

5. *Your lamb ſhall be without blemiſh, a male of the firſt year: ye ſhall take it out from the ſheep, or from the goats.*

9. *Eat not of it raw, nor ſodden at all with water, but roſt with fire: his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.*

11. *And thus ſhall ye eat it; with your loyns girded, your ſhoes on your feet, and your ſtaff in your hand: and ye ſhall eat it in haſte; it is the Lords paſſover.*

## LVII.

### *The Death of the Firſtborn.*

AND now the Night her ſable Wings diſplaid,
And half the World lay drown'd in dusky ſhade:
The Fires on *Pharaoh*'s Tower remiſsly burn,
And ſnatch ſhort Life from their exhauſted Urn:
Lean Avarice ſlumbers o'r its uſeleſs ſtore,
Ev'n Malice Sleeps, in ſome to wake no more.
Fix'd in their Orbs the ſickning Planets ſtand,
And *Ammon* trembles for his darling Land.

'Tis paſs'd -- th' Almighty Word from Heav'n leap'd down,
And on his radiant Face he wore a Frown
To Angels terrible; his Sword unſheaths,
Walks thro' the Land, and deals Ten Thouſand Deaths;
But ſtops at each protected *Hebrews* Door,
And drops the Point, or waves it gently o'r:
Then, as the *Nile*, where Hills or Damms oppoſe,
When theſe ſurpaſs'd, with greater Fury flows,
He ſhoots away and draws a purple Flood,
Agen the Land is drunk with Seas of Blood.
What ſteely Heart can bear, what Tongue recite
The mortal Terrors of that dreadful Night?
Expiring Groans the gentleſt Sounds they hear,
And ſomething worſe than Death the Living fear:
An Univerſal Shriek invades the Skies;
As when th' Unjuſt compell'd to Judgement riſe:

So

So *Pharaoh* roſe amidſt his ghaſtly Friends,
And now for *Moſes* not diſſembling ſends;
He beggs, he ſues, he haſtens him away,
No Children now, or Goods behind muſt ſtay:
Nor empty thence, nor unadorn'd they went,
Loaden with Jewels by th' *Egyptians* lent:
The Hoſts of God, led by his own ſtrong Hand
In peaceful Triumph march from *Egypts* hated Land.

## EXODUS, Chap. XII. 29. to 33.

29. *At midnight the Lord ſmote all the firſt-born in the Land of* Egypt, *from the firſt-born of* Pharaoh *that ſat on his throne, unto the firſt-born of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firſt-born of cattel.*

30. *And* Pharaoh *roſe up in the night, he and all his ſervants, and all the* Egyptians; *and there was a great cry in* Egypt: *for there was not a houſe where there was not one dead.*

31. *And he called for* Moſes *and* Aaron *by night, and ſaid, riſe up, and get you up from amongſt my people, both you and the children of* Iſrael: *and go, ſerve the Lord, as ye have ſaid,* &c.

## LVIII.

## Pharaoh *purſues the* Iſraelites.

CAN *Pharaoh* late repriev'd ſo ſoon rebel?
He can, he does he grows too ripe for Hell.
(When reſpite once a perjur'd Tyrant gains,
Nothing can hold him but infernal Chains.)
*Leviathan* the *Great* enrag'd, purſues
The Prey he ſeem'd e'rwhile conſent to loſe:
Chariots, and Horſe which knew not to retire
(But how can Stubble face conſuming Fire?)
He leads, defenceleſs *Iſrael* to oppreſs,
Entangl'd in th' impervious Wilderneſs.
The Sea in Front, their Flanks huge Mountains lin'd,
And *Pharaoh*'s num'rous Army preſs'd behind,
The ſervile Crowd, baſe as the Chains they wore
Envy the Bondage which they mourn'd before:
In vain the fiery Column now may ſhine,
Dumb Idols fear'd above the Pow'r divine.
*Moſes* to God for ſpeedy Succour flies,
And God to *Moſes* from the Cloud replies:
Let not the Hours in weak Complaints run waſte,
But give the word to march, and forward haſte!
March for the ſounding Shore without delay,
And he that bids you go will make, or find the Way.

# LVIII.

## EXODUS, Chap. XIV. Ver. 5. to 15.




v. 6. Pharaoh *made ready his chariot, and took his people with him.*

7. *And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of* Egypt, *and captains over every one of them.*

8. *And he pursued after the children of* Israel: *and the children of* Israel *went out with an high hand.*

9. *But the* Egyptians *pursued after them, (all the horses and chariots of* Pharaoh, *and his horsemen, and his army) and overtook them encamping by the sea.*

## LIX.

### Pharaoh *and his Army drowned in the Red Sea.*

BEhold, ſtretch'd out before the *Hebrew* Hoſt
The Rod which had not yet its Virtue loſt!
The Sea divides, and every ſhouldring Wave
His Neighbour preſſing, eaſie paſſage gave:
Old Ocean's ſecret Chambers open lay,
Its Pearls and Gemms expos'd an eaſie prey;
Pale Coral bluſh'd to ſee th' invading Day.
The reſcu'd *Hebrews* tremble now no more,
But wall'd with Floods attempt the diſtant Shore.
Th' *Egyptians* with Revenge and Fury blind
Purſue the Track, and preſs 'em cloſe behind:
The Cloud and Fiery Pillar interpoſe,
And *Iſrael* ſhield from their devoted Foes:
What mortal Force Heav'ns angry Looks can bear,
Which in a Moment frowns it to Deſpair?
Terror, Confuſion, Horror, and Diſmay
Their Army ſeize; their Horſes diſobey
The Maſter's Voice; unwheel'd their Chariots flag,
And thro' the Sand, a pond'rous Load, they drag:
Too late the Wretches now their Error ſee;
From *Iſraels* God too late attempt to flee:

# LIX.

## EXODUS, Chap. XIV. from Ver. 21. to 29.



v. 27. Moſes *ſtretched forth his hand over the ſea, and the ſea returned to his ſtrength when the morning appeared, and the* Egyptians *fled againſt it: and the Lord overthrew the* Egyptians *in the midſt of the ſea.*

28. *And the waters returned, and covered the chariots and the horſemen, and all the hoſt of* Pharaoh *that came into the ſea after them: there remained not ſo much as one of them.*

29. *But the children of* Iſrael *walked upon dry-land in the midſt of the ſea: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.*

*Moſes*

*Moſes* agen his fatal Rod extends,
The Ocean ſees, and from its Walls deſcends:
On every ſide its watr'y Troops appear,
And charge at once their Front, their Flank, and Rear,
The gen'rous Courſers rear, and plunge in vain
To break the Studded Harneſs, and the Rein,
And like Sea Monſters float upon the Main.
Nobles and Peaſants, Princes and their Slaves
Fall undiſtinguiſh'd in the roaring Waves:
*Pharaoh* the laſt, tho' high above the reſt,
Like *Lucifer* his Looks, his Pride confeſs'd:
Curſing he from his lofty Chariot fell,
His Carcaſs ſunk to Earth, his faithleſs Soul to Hell.

## LX.

## EXODUS, Chap. XV.

## MOSES's *Song.*

ON *Etham*'s adverſe Shore the *Hebrews* ſtand,
And ſee their Foes extended on the Sand:
Each ſees the cruel Lord from whom he fled,
Trembling they view, and ſcarce believe 'em dead.
While *Moſes* thus tranſmits to After-Days
The Great Event, and their Redeemer's Praiſe.

The

The Lord's triumphant Name let all rehearſe,
Praiſe the dread Maker of the Univerſe!
The Horſe whom rich Capariſons adorn,
Proud Riders by the gen'rous Courſers born,
At once have ſlept their Everlaſting Sleep,
At once lie buried in th' *Arabian* Deep.
Dread God of Battles! we'll thy works proclaim
Thy wondrous Works -- *Jehova* is thy Name.
My Saviour thou, my Strength, my Song, my Praiſe,
My Father's God -- Thy glorious Name I'll raiſe;
For Thee a Stately Temple I'll prepare,
Deep as the Centre, tow'ring as the Air.
Thus ſaid th' inſulting Foe -- I will purſue,
My Sword in Blood, my thirſty Sword imbrue:
The Winds of God blew terrible and loud,
Th' Abyſs the Signal takes, and overwhelms the Proud.
Like Stones, like Lead they ſink, they all expire,
Weak Stubble in thy Wraths conſuming Fire.
The Waters ſaw, thy Voice the Waters hear,
Forget their Nature, and congeal with Fear:
The Sea like Earth, and Earth like Seas appear:
Convulſions cleave the Ground in horrid Caves,
And ſhow a new Abyſs beneath the Waves.
Great God of *Iſrael!* what vain Idol dare
With thee, th' Eternal Lord of Hoſts, compare?

Thy

Thy Glory ſhall thy ranſom'd Saints expreſs,
Obedient Nature does thy Pow'r confeſs,
And Thee with Faces veil'd the dazled Angels bleſs.

## LXI.

## EXODUS, Chap. XV. from Ver. 22. to the End.

*The* Iſraelites *journey to* Marah. *They murmur. The Water healed. They arrive at* Elim.

THE Seas, and Sanguine Shore they now forſake,
And thro' th' untroden Wild their Journey take:
Three Days they meaſure that unhappy Land,
O'r Rocks of Salt, and burning Hills of Sand:
At *Marah*, Water found, but found in vain,
It mocks their Thirſt, and but augments their Pain.
Bitter and Salt, -- The murm'ring Hoſt complain;
Forget their Saviour who, from *Egypt* brought,
And all the Signs in *Zoan*'s Fields he wrought:

(But every Age produces Murm'rers too,
*Iſrael* we blame, yet *Iſrael*'s Crimes purſue.)
To Heav'n their Leader flies, which ſends Relief,
Heav'n which can find a Cure for ev'ry Grief,
A Tree of wondrous Uſe, and Pow'r reveals,
Whoſe Virtue ſoon the brackiſh Waters heals.
Journying from thence, at *Elim* they arrive,
Scarce *Canaan*'s ſelf cou'd more of Pleaſure give:
For every Tribe a Cryſtal Spring they found,
Whoſe limpid Waters fall with murm'ring Sound,
And lull their Cares; the Hoſt encamps around,
Beneath a Palm-Tree Grove's refreſhing Shade.
No Sun can reach 'em there, no Storms invade.
O Happy who for heavenly *Canaan* preſs
Tho' wand'ring thro' a weary Wilderneſs,
When ſome reviving Drops kind Angels bring
From Loves and Pleaſures unexhauſted Spring;
Whoſe Streams from God's high Throne inceſſant flow,
On whoſe green Banks in comely Order grow
Fair Trees, whoſe gen'rous Fruit that charms the Eyes,
Who wou'd not die to taſte? who taſts it never dies.

## LXII.

## Manna *given.*

FOR Water late, and now for Bread they cry,
Their Stores exhauſted ask a new ſupply:
Happy th' *Egyptians*, who in plenty dy!
The Mercy of a Plague, who wou'd not chuſe
Rather than Life by lingring Famine loſe!
How gladly wou'd they thoſe bleſs'd Times regain,
And *Pharaoh*'s happy, peaceful, glorious Reign!
While thus th' Aſſembly murmur and repine,
Behold the God of *Iſrael*'s Glory ſhine
Amid the Cloud, which rais'd its lofty Head
Above the Camp, and thus th' Almighty ſaid:
- Ungrate! who gave you *life* can give you *bread*:
To morrows Sun your Plenty ſhall renew,
And ſhew a faithleſs Race what Heav'n can do.
Nor ſooner did Heav'ns Lamp th' Horizon paſs,
And draw the fragrant moiſture from the Graſs,
When on the ground a hoary Subſtance lay
Like tender Froſts, that melt at ſight of Day;
Unſeen before, unknown from whence it came,
But *Manna* now the wondrous Food they name,
Tranſparent Cryſtal Globes leſs bright, and round,
Fairer than Pearls in *Indian* Oceans found:
Of nobleſt Taſte, and fitted to invite,
But never cloy the treated Appetite.
Leſs ſweet the Hony which from *Hybla* flows,
Or Oyl, that *Aſher*'s fruitful portion grows:
Celeſtial Fare! if ought above they need,
On this, or not unlike it, Angels feed:
Their radiant Vehicles with this renew,
And feaſt on pearly Drops of fragrant Morning Dew.

# LXII.

## Exodus, Chap. XVI. Ver. 3. 4. 10. 12. 14. 15.



v. 13. *In the morning the dew lay round about the hoſt.*

v. 14. *And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderneſs there lay a ſmall round thing, as ſmall as the hoar froſt on the ground.*

15. *And when the children of* Iſrael *ſaw it, they ſaid one to another, it is* Manna: *for they wiſt not what it was. And* Moſes *ſaid unto them, this is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.*

16. *Gather of it every man according to his eating: an omer for every man, according to the number of your perſons, take ye every man for them which are in his tents.*

## LXIII.

### Moſes *praying* Amalek *diſcomfited.*

OLD *Eſau*'s quarrel *Amalek* purſues,
And firſt with *Jacob*'s Sons his War renews:
But *Joſhua*, *Jacob*'s Sons their Leader chooſe,
While *Moſes* with ſtrong Pray'rs attacks their Foes,
Planted upon a neighb'ring Mountains height,
No unconcern'd Spectator of the Fight:
From Heav'n auxiliary Troops he draws,
And Guardian Hoſts eſpouſe the juſter cauſe:
Inviſible they charge, th' Invaders yield;
Retiring in diſorder from the Field.
Heavy with Age the Prophet ſtrives in vain,
And can no more his palſied Hands ſuſtain:
The ſtrong *Cherubic* Guards retire from fight,
The Foe returns with doubled rage and might:
When *Hur* and *Aaron* this perceiv'd from far,
And mark'd the various Fortune of the War,
Ebbing and flowing ſaw the doubtful Tide,
Which *Moſes* rais'd or drooping Hands did guide,
Cautious they plac'd themſelves on either ſide:
Supported thus till Night the Prophet pray'd,
The dubious Chance no longer now delay'd,
But Conqueſt on the *Hebrew* Banner ſtaid;
When thus th' Allhigh -- Let future Ages know
Who firſt was ranſom'd *Iſrael*'s conquer'd Foe:
Write, in the Sacred Volumes, write it fair,
Let future Nations find, and read it there,
That God, with *Amalek* proclaims eternal War.

# XLIII.

## EXODUS, Chap. XVII. from Ver. 8. to the End.

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v. 10. Joſhua *fought with* Amalek: *and* Moſes, Aaron, *and* Hur, *went up to the top of the hill.*

11. *And when* Moſes *held up his hand,* Iſrael *prevailed: and when he let it down* Amalek *prevailed.*

12. *But* Moſes's *hands were heavy, and they took a ſtone, and put it under him, and he ſat thereon: and* Aaron *and* Hur *ſtayed up his hands, the one on the one ſide, and the other on the other ſide; and his hands were ſteady until the going down of the ſun.*

13. *And* Joſhua *diſcomfited* Amalek *and his people with the edge of the ſword.*

## LXIV.

### *The Law is given from Mount* Sinai *in Thunder and Lightning.*

TO *Sinai* next, the Mount of God, they came,
Which ſoon was veil'd in awful Clouds, and Flame:
*Jehova* calls, and bids the Camp prepare,
From Heav'n he will his ſacred Laws declare;
Around the ſpatious Mount muſt Bounds be made,
Nor Man nor Beaſt on pain of Death invade.
Archangels now th' amazing Trumpets ſound,
Which from th' *Arabian* Deep, and Weſtern Shores rebound:
Heark how th' unſufferable Thunders tear
Both Earth and Heav'n! while forky Lightnings glare,
And with blue Flames transfix the ambient Air:
Trembled the Camp, the ſolid Mountain ſhakes,
And Earth beneath it, to the Centre quakes:
Red Volcans from its mould'ring Top expire,
Extinguiſh Day, and damp the Lightnings Fire.
The Lord deſcends, the Thund'rers Voice is known,
The Holy Myriads guarding round his Throne:
The Ten dread Words from *Sinai* he recites,
Which his own Hand in Marble Tables writes:
Great Natures Tranſcript, and Eternal Law,
Whence future Sages ſhall their Models draw,
Wiſe *Greece* and haughty *Rome* are here ſurpaſs'd,
Each Word, each Tittle here ſhall Earth and Heav'n out-laſt.

# LXIV.

## EXODUS, Chap. XIX. and Chap. XX.

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Chap. xix. V. 18. *Mount* Sinai *was altogether on a ſmoke, becauſe the Lord deſcended upon it in fire: and the ſmoke thereof aſcended as the ſmoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.*

20. *And the Lord came down upon mount* Sinai, *on the top of the mount: and the Lord called* Moſes *up to the top of the mount, and* Moſes *went up.*

21. *And the people ſtood afar off, and* Moſes *drew near unto the thick darkneſs where God was.*

## LXV.

### *The Altar and Tabernacle.*

TO *Moſes* God the ſacred Model ſhows,
Whence he his moving Temple ſhou'd compoſe:
Figure of heavenly Things in Shades conceal'd,
And Truths to be by lab'ring Time reveal'd.
Of *Shittim*'s precious Wood an Altar's rear'd,
And all its ſacred Utenſils prepar'd:
Next ſee the Court whoſe ſpacious Curtains joyn,
Embroider'd richly o'r, a Work divine:
On Twenty neat Pilaſters ſtrongly born,
Whoſe Heads fair Silver Corniſhes adorn.
The Tabernacle next -- with awful Fear
Approach the Place, for God himſelf is here:
Let all adoring enter, nor preſume
With Feet unhallow'd to invade the Room:
Where a rich Branch with pureſt Oil ſupply'd
Scatters perpetual Day on every ſide,

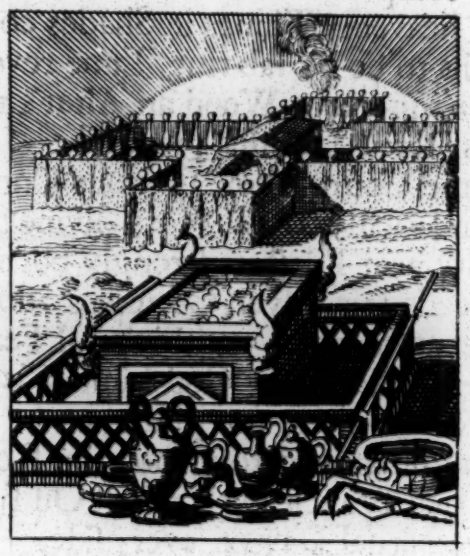
But what the Veil conceals we can't ſurvey,
Until the Son of God in Mortal Clay
Into the Holy' of Holies ſhews the way:
Yet Faith may pierce beyond dull Senſe's Eye,
And thoſe tremendous Myſteries deſcry.
The ſacred Ark with pureſt Gold o'rlaid,
Of the Redeemers Fleſh a Myſtic Shade:
High over all the *Shechina* divine,
From whence unſufferable Glories ſhine.

Here Faith muſt ſtop, for Heav'n can give no more!
Here Modeſt *Seraphs* veil their Faces, and adore.

# LXV.

## EXODUS, Chap. XXV. Ver. 8, 9, 10. 17, 18. 22. Chap. XXVII. to the End.

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Chap. XXV. V. 8. *Let them make me a ſanctuary; that I may dwell amongſt them.*

9. *According to all that I ſhew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the inſtruments thereof, even ſo ſhall ye make it.*

10. *And they ſhall make an ark of* Shittim-*wood:*

11. *And thou ſhalt overlay it with pure gold,* &c.

Chap. XXVII. V. 1. *And thou ſhalt make an altar of* Shittim-*wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar ſhall be four-ſquare, and the height thereof ſhall be three cubits.*

2. *And thou ſhalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns ſhall be of the ſame: and thou ſhalt overlay it with braſs,* &c.

## LXVI.

### *The Golden Calf.*

WHile *Moſes* in the Mount with God remain'd,
Shameful Idolatry the People ſtain'd:
Their Leader abſent, who ſhou'd them protect?
Rejecting him they God himſelf reject:
A *Golden Calf* the Crowd in *Horeb* frame,
And for their Idol ſteal *Jehova*'s Name,
Then thus the gaudy Nothing's Praiſe proclaim.
" Hail, ſacred Heifer! thus we bow to thee,
" Who *Iſrael* didſt from *Egypts* Bondage free:
" O guide us thro' this barren World of Sand,
" And bring us ſafe to *Canaans* bliſsful Land!
From him not hid, who ev'n our Thoughts can ſee,
Their Black Ingratitude, and Blaſphemy:
In wrathful Clouds his Face he ſoon conceals,
And thus to *Moſes* he their Crime reveals:
" Hence to the Camp deſcend, nor longer here remain!
" Thy People, (mine no more, they my Commands diſdain,)
" Whom thou from *Egypt* brought'ſt, ſo ſoon corrupted grown,
" New Golden Gods adore, their Fathers God diſown:
" Confirm'd and ſteel'd in Sin, of harden'd Heart and Face,
" My Vengeance I'll unrein on all their murm'ring Race,

Low

# LXVI.

## EXODUS, Chap. XXXII.

119



v. 4. *He made it a molten calf: and they ſaid, theſe be thy gods,* O Iſrael, *which brought thee up out of the land of* Egypt.

5. *And when* Aaron *ſaw it, he built an altar before it, and* Aaron *made proclamation and ſaid, to morrow is a feaſt to the Lord.*

6. *And they roſe up early on the morrow, and offered burnt-offerings, and brought peace-offerings: and the people ſat down to eat, and to drink, and roſe up to play.*

19. *As ſoon as* Moſes *came nigh unto the camp, and ſaw the calf, and the dancing;* Moſes *anger waxed hot, and he caſt the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount,* &c.

Low on the Ground the trembling Prophet falls,
And on th' offended Pow'r for Mercy calls:
His Truth and Glory pleads, nor pleads in vain,
A kind Reprieve his fervent Pray'rs obtain.
Then from the *Mount* deſcends as *Heav'n* commands
With both the Sacred Tables in his Hands:
Approach'd the Camp he did too ſoon deſcry
Their New-born Golden Idol plac'd on high:
Riot and Shouts his feſtal Pomp proclaim,
Lewd Dances ſpread his Glory and their Shame.
The Saint did all with juſt Reſentments view,
And from his Hands the heav'nly Treaſure threw;
Againſt the craggy Rock the Tables brake;
Then did their Calf, their helpleſs Idol take,
Moulten and ground to Duſt, the Duſt he ſtrows
Upon the Brook which from the Mountain flows:
Then brings his fond Adorers to the Brink,
And makes 'em of the odious Potion drink:
Nor this enough to expiate their ſtain,
Till Thouſands of th' Unjuſt by Zealous *Levi* ſlain.

## LXVII.

### Aaron's *Veſtments.* *His Offerings.*

AND now behold the holy Veſtments grace
Great *Aaron*, and his conſecrated Race:
Of pureſt Linnen twin'd his *Mitre* made,
A glorious *Ephod* o'r his Shoulders laid:
*Light* and *Perfection* on his Breaſt he wears,
And near his Heart the Names of *Iſrael* bears,

On

On richeſt Gems within the Folds enchas'd,
Which as he mov'd a dazling Splendor caſt.
In fineſt Linnen clad his Sons appear,
*Miters* their Heads, their Shoulders *Ephods* wear.
Ineſtimable Unguents largely ſhed
Surround the Holy Pontiff's rev'rend Head,
Thence to his Robes deſcend, and ſcatt'ring there
With fragrant Odours fill the Ambient Air:
Thus veſted, he his Offerings makes t' atone
At once the Peoples Errors, and his own;
An Holocauſt upon the Altar lays,
And next the peaceful Minchas chearful blaze:
Pure Incenſe laſt within the Veil he burns,
Then *Moſes* joyns, and to the Crowd returns,
Whom both with lifted Hands they bleſs - when ſee,
To firm their Pray'rs a welcome Prodigie!
Th' illumin'd Cloud is fill'd with golden Streams,
Which drown the fainter Suns retiring Beams;
From whence large Sheets of pure Ætherial Flame
Shot thro' the Clouds and inſtantaneous came;
Conſume the Fat which on the Altar lies,
Conſume at once the grateful Sacrifice.
Low on the Ground th' aſtoniſh'd People fell,
And with loud Shouts they praiſe the God of *Iſrael*.

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## LEVITICUS, Chap. VIII. from Ver. 5. to 10. Chap. IX.

V. 5. *This is the thing which the Lord commanded to be done.*

6. *And* Moſes *brought* Aaron *and his ſons, and waſhed them with water,* &c.

## LXVIII.

## Nadab *and* Abihu.

BOld *Nadab* and *Abihu* here prepare,
The daily Incenſe in their Courſe to bear.
They ſaw no friendly Blaze to Heav'n aſpire,
They ſaw the Smoak in gloomy Curls retire,
Their Incenſe kindled with unhallow'd Fire.
But from th' affronted Oracle there came
In rolling Clouds a more than Lambent Flame,
Which ſeiz'd th' audacious as too late they fled,
Reveng'd their Sacrilege, and left 'em dead,
Their Robes untouch'd -- Thus Lightnings wondrous Fire,
Which melts the Blade the Scabbard leaves entire.
When *Moſes* thus to their ſad Kindred ſpoke,
Reſtrain your Tears, nor mourn this dreadful Stroke.
From Heav'n it comes, 'tis juſt, tho' 'tis ſevere,
For thus *Jehova* did his Will declare.
" Let thoſe who my dread Courts approach, beware,
" Holy as I am Holy, Clean, and Pure,
" Nor can the ſmalleſt Stain of Sin endure.
Preſume not then your Brethren to lament,
Cover'd your Heads, nor ſhall your Cloaths be rent,
Leſt while th' anointing Sacred Oyl you bear,
And that with Grief pollute, their Fates you ſhare.
Nor ſhall they fall unmourn'd, for Heav'n ordains
Sepulchral Honours to their great Remains:
All *Iſrael* ſhall their Obſequies attend,
Bemoan their raſh Attempt, and their untimely End.

# LXVIII.

## LEVITICUS, Chap. X. Ver. 1. to 7.

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V. 1. Nadab *and* Abihu, *the ſons of* Aaron, *took either of them his cenſer, and put fire therein, and put incenſe thereon, and offered ſtrange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not.*

2. *And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.*

3. *Then* Moſes *ſaid unto* Aaron: *this is that the Lord ſpake, ſaying, I will be ſanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified.*

LXIX.

## LXIX.

### Shelomith's *Son blaſphemes, and is ſtoned.*

THE Son of *Shelomith*, of ſpurious Race,
Sprung from a proud *Egyptian*'s loath'd Em-
His Father's Nature but too well expreſs'd, (brace,
And all the *Heathen* in his Life confeſs'd;
Stubborn and lewd, inclin'd to curs'd Debates,
*Iſrael* alike, and *Iſrael*'s God he hates:
Always Contentious, ever in the Wrong,
Boaſting his nervous Strength, but vainly ſtrong,
As impotent of Heart as ſtout of Tongue.
He challenges the Camp his Force to try,
But ſhameful Foyl his boaſted Victory;
O'rthrown and baffled by a ſingle Hand,
Curſing the Impious falls, and bites the Sand:
Enrag'd, on partial Heav'n he throws the blame,
Blaſphemes the Great *Jehova*'s ſacred Name;
But on himſelf his Curſes backward fly
And wound his Head, but cannot reach the Skie.
The pious Crowd around with Horror hears,
They ſeize the harden'd Wretch and ſtop their Ears:
To the Tribunal dragg'd, his Cauſe is try'd,
The Fact Notorious not to be deny'd:
No Puniſhment that reach'd his daring Crimes
Their Laws had fix'd, unknown to former Times:
The Oracle conſulted, ſtrait replies,
No Mercy ſhew to him who Heav'n defies!
Beneath a ſtony Show'r th' abhorr'd Blaſphe-
mer dies.

Such be their Fate who Glory in their Shame,
And ſtill affront th' Unalterable Name:
But happy thoſe, who on Heav'ns ſide engage,
Bold Blaſphemy to check, and ſtem an impious Age.

# LXIX.

## LEVITICUS, Chap. XXIV. Ver. 10. to 23.

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v. 10, 11. *The ſon of an* Iſraelitiſh *woman blaſphemed the name of the Lord, and curſed: and they brought him unto* Moſes, *and his mothers name was* Shelomith, *&c.*

13. *And the Lord ſpake unto* Moſes *ſaying,*

14. *Bring forth him that hath curſed, without the camp, and let all that heard him, lay hands upon his head, and let all the congregation ſtone him.*

23. *And the children of* Iſrael *did as the Lord commanded* Moſes.

LXX.

## LXX.

### *The Number and Encampment of the* Iſraelites.

TWice had the Sun to either Tropic driv'n
His Golden Car, and view'd both Ends of Heav'n,
Since *Jacob*'s Sons from *Egypt*'s Thraldom came,
Conducted by the wondrous Cloud and Flame:
When God in *Sinai*'s Wild to *Moſes* ſpake,
And bids of all the Tribes the Number take:
With him the Princes of th' Aſſembly join,
The famous Heads of every Patriarch's Line:
To Sixty Myriads did their Males amount,
Tho' *Levi* not included in th' Account:
The Charge of God his conſtant happy Care,
His ſacred Tribe the ſacred Veſſels bear;
For this encamp'd the Tabernacle round,
The reſt far off from that forbidden Ground:
Each Houſe the Standard of their Tribe regard,
Each Tribe obſerves its own peculiar Ward.
Where firſt the Sun its ſmiling Beams diſplays
Great *Judah*'s Princely Lion meets his Rays:
Wiſe *Iſſachar* his deep Battallion join'd,
And *Zebulon* encamp'd not far behind.
Againſt fierce Noon were *Ruben*'s Arms diſplaid,
But skreen'd beneath the Clouds refreſhing Shade,
*Simeon* and *Gad* their Brother's Quarter ſhare,
A pow'rful Army each, and each a War:
*Ephraim* encamps againſt the midland Main,
*Manaſſeh* him, and *Benjamin* ſuſtain:

The

The Rear to *Dan*'s fierce Thouſands *Moſes* gave,
Beneath the frozen Pole his Banners wave;
Whoſe numerous Camp bleſs'd *Aſher*'s Sons augment,
And *Nephthali* behind 'em pitch'd his Tent.
Thus marſhal'd they the Sandy Deſart tread,
Where e'r the Ark and wondrous Column led:
The Signal giv'n for marching, *Moſes* pray'd,
And not in vain, implor'd celeſtial Aid:
" --- Ariſe, O Lord! and thoſe that hate thee find,
" Scatter'd like Duſt or Chaff before the Wind!
But when agen their weary Armies halt,
Thus did he their Redeemer's Praiſe exalt;
" Where thou our Guard, no Shape of Ill we fear;
" Return, O Lord! and bleſs thy choſen Myriads here.

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## NUMBERS, Chap. I. II. Chap. X. Ver. 35. 36.

Ch. I. v. 1. *The Lord ſpake unto* Moſes, *ſaying*,

2. *Take ye the ſum of all the congregation of the children of* Iſrael, *after their families, by the houſe of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their poll:*

3. *From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in* Iſrael; *thou and* Aaron *ſhall number them by their armies*, &c.

## LXXI.

## TABERAH.

AGEN ungrateful *Israel* blindly err,
And rank *Egyptian* Dainties they prefer
To that rich Food whereon th' Immortals fed,
The sordid Bread of Slaves to Angels Bread:
Ah who, they cry, shall give us Flesh to eat!
The same dry nauseous Food we still repeat?
Is Heav'n so Poor it can no better treat?
Nothing but *Manna*, *Manna* can afford?
Too well we now recall that crowded Board
We did in *Egypt* with our Masters share.
Nor wanted tasteful Leeks and Onions there:
They thought 'em Gods, and them we scarce can blame,
Who if we saw 'em now, shou'd do the same.
*Jehova* heard, his wrathful Vengeance rose,
And woe to his unthankful murm'ring Foes!
Behold the Fire of God from Heav'n appear;
And seize their utmost Tents like Stragglers in the Rear,
Raging unquenchable; the Rebels fly,
Or in the rapid Flames blaspheming dy.
With short extorted Penitence the rest
To *Moses* cry, and he to Heav'n address'd,
Which soon the furious Element repress'd.
The Place's Name the wondrous Action shares,
And thence, unchang'd by Time, to distant Ages bears.

# LXXII.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XI. Ver. 1. to 6.



V. 1. *When the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.*

2. *And the people cried unto* Moses; *and when* Moses *prayed unto the Lord, the fire was quenched.*

3. *And he called the name of the place* Taberah: *because the fire of the Lord burnt among them.*

## LXXIII.

### *Quails Given. The People Plagu'd.*

OH! who the Depths of Man's falſe Heart can tell,
And baſe Ingratitude, as deep as Hell!
As faſt as God can Pardon, we rebel:
Obnoxious Sinners think his Bolts too ſlow,
Challenge his Thunder, and prevent the blow.
The ſtubborn Mutineers, their Fellows ſlain,
Mercy to them, and Grace, indulg'd in vain,
Againſt the Hand that gave 'em Life complain:
For *Fleſh* their cry, around the Camp it ran,
From every Tent 'twas heard, and every man:
Ye ſhall, ſaid God: your raging Wiſh enjoy,
And with the fatal Grant your ſelves deſtroy!
One Day, nor Two, nor Twenty ſhall ſuffice,
Since you the Lord, and what he ſends deſpiſe;
For a full Month of Days you Fleſh ſhall eat,
Till with the luſted Dainties all replete,
You loath, like Manna now, your own deſire,
And fated with the Food unbleſs'd expire.
He ſaid, when ſtrait tempeſtuous Winds ariſe,
And fill with Clouds of *Quails*, the burthen'd Skies:
Tired with their Flight they fall the Camp around,
And cover wide away the Sandy Ground;
Thick as th' unnumber'd Drops, when *Auſter* brings
Warm fruitful Rains upon his Humid Wings.
The People ſeize the animated Show'r,
And half alive their bleeding Limbs devour.
Nor long behind the thankleſs Gluttons ſtaid,
Nor was the threatn'd Vengeance long delay'd:
A ſudden Plague from Heav'n th' Unjuſt conſumes,
And late Poſterity with Horror ſhows their Tombs.

# LXXIII.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XI. Ver. 31. to 34

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v. 31. *There went forth a wind from the Lord, and brought quails from the ſea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a days journey on this ſide, and as it were a days journey on the other ſide, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.*

32. *And the people ſtood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered leaſt, gathered ten homers: and they ſpread them all abroad for themſelves round about the camp,* &c.

## LXXIV.

### Aaron *and* Miriam's *ſedition, her Leproſie and Cure.*

MOSES, on Earth the meekeſt Man in vain;
The more he bears, the more the Crowd complain:
The Foe to Goodneſs moves domeſtic Strife
Betwixt his haughty Siſter and his Wife:
Ambition, Pride, and reſtleſs Female Rage,
Three pow'rful Fiends did on his ſide engage:
Place, and Preeminence, (which cou'd they chuſe
What Woman wou'd not rather die than loſe!)
The weighty Cauſes of their mutual Jarrs;
This no Superior, that no Rival bears.
*Miriam* too weak, her Brother *Aaron* draws
Againſt their Siſter to eſpouſe her cauſe:
*Moſes* for his unhappy choice they blame,
A *Cuſhite* ſhe, their Stocks and Nations ſhame:
Silent he ſtood, nor in their Fewds engag'd,
With weightier Thoughts employ'd - the more enrag'd,
At length they into open Faction brake,
The Lord by *them*, as well as *Moſes* ſpake:
Nor this th' All-high, who from his radiant Throne
Regards the Meek, and ſtill their Cauſe will own:
His well-known Glory in the Cloud appears,
Far off the whole Aſſembly kneels and fears:
A Voice from his Majeſtick Preſence went,
Which *Aaron* call'd, and *Miriam* from their Tent:
Trembling they came, when thus *Jehova* ſaid:

And were you not, audacious Pair! affraid
Againſt my Servant *Moſes* to repine,
And with th' accurſed murm'ring Crowd combine?
If *You* the Great Prophetic Office ſhare
In Dreams and Viſions I'll my will declare;
But Face to Face with *Him* I'll ſpeak, and he
Shall only my unclouded Glories ſee.

He ſaid, and from the guilty Pair withdrew;
The marks of heav'nly Anger ſoon they knew:
All o'r a ghaſtly Leper *Miriam* grown,
Unclean, deform'd, and to her ſelf unknown:
Affrighted *Aaron* ſaw, to *Moſes* ran,
Fell at his Feet, and thus with Tears began:
Our ſhameful Guilt and Folly we deplore
Goodneſs like yours, my Lord! will ask no more:
That Mercy which your greateſt Foe can ſpare
O now let a repenting Siſter ſhare!
He hears, he prays, and Heav'n did her reſtore,
The Plague remov'd, as ſound and beauteous as before.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XII.

v. 1. Miriam *and* Aaron *ſpake againſt* Moſes *becauſe of the* Ethiopian *woman, whom he had married, for he had married an* Ethiopian *woman.*

2. *And they ſaid, hath the Lord indeed ſpoken only by* Moſes? *hath he not ſpoken alſo by us? And the Lord heard it,* &c.

## LXXV.

### *The Spies and Bunch of Grapes.*

N *Canaans* Southern Bounds glad *Iſrael* ſtand
And of their Rulers ſend to ſearch the Land:
By ancient *Hebrons* Tow'rs they took their way
And thoſe tall Hills which round proud *Jebus* lay;
Thence to delightful *Jericho* they came,
The City' of *Palm-Trees*, widely known to Fame:
O'r *Kiſhon's* Foords, near *Tabor's* Mount and Fields,
*Kiſhon*, which to fair *Jordan* only yields,
The ſounding Shores of *Cinnereth* ſurvey;
Their Journey thence to *Jordan's* Fountains lay,
Which under hoary *Libanus* ariſe,
Whoſe Ridges bound the Land, and threat the Skies.
Returning they to fruitful *Eſhcol* came,
Thence *Eſhcol* ſtil'd, before unknown to Fame:
'Twas now the Time when Nature in her Pride
That happy Land with gen'rous Fruits ſupply'd:
With Golden Cheeks the rich Pomgranates ſhine,
And tempting Grapes load each luxuriant Vine.

Of

# LXXV.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XIII.



V. 17, &c. Moſes *ſent men to ſpie out the land of* Canaan, *and ſaid, get you up, and ſee the land what it is, whether it be good or bad, fat or lean,* &c.

23. *And they came unto the brook of* Eſhcol, *and cut down from thence a branch with one cluſter of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a ſtaff; and they brought of the pomgranates, and of the figs.*

24. *The place was called the brook* Eſhcol, *becauſe of the cluſter of grapes which the children of* Iſrael *cut down from thence.*

Of these they a vast Cluster with 'em bear,
Th' enormous weight Two of the Strongest share,
Brought on a knotty Staff with Sweat and Pain,
The knotty Staff cou'd scarce the the Load sustain.
Full Forty Days expir'd at length they come
In an unlucky Hour to *Paran* home.
The Land, they must confess, was rich and good
Exuberant every where with Fruit and Food,
And all the needs of Life; But still they must
In their Accounts impartial be, and just,
And not betray the Peoples weighty Trust:
*They were not fond of War*, nor wish'd to try
The Force of their unequal Enemy:
Their Garisons were strong, their Walls were high,
Their num'rous People Bold and Warlike were,
*Anak the Great*, with his fierce Sons were there:
Proud *Amalek* the Southern Border fills,
The *Hittite* and the *Amorite* the Hills,
Themselves as Tall; bold *Jebus* Sons the rest,
The *Canaanite* the Shore and *Jordan*'s Coast possess'd.

LXXVI.

## LXXVI.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XIV.

### *The People murmur.* Joſhua *and* Caleb *endeavour to ſtill them,* &c.

IT was a mournful and a tedious Night:
The fiery Pillar ſhot no friendly light,
A Pannic fear the trembling Camp invades,
Attack'd by Legions of infernal ſhades:
Diſcord and Malice, Diſcontent and Care
Ingratitude, Sedition, and Deſpair,
And Faction, fowleſt Fiend of Hell were there.
Amid the Croud in cloſe Cabals they lay
Preparing for the Miſchief of the Day:
With ſullen Gloom the luckleſs Day aroſe,
And did the Counſels of the Night diſcloſe,
Gath'ring in Globes ſee the Tumultuous Crowd,
Pour'd from their Tents their Treaſons vent aloud:
Nor only *Moſes* now, but God accuſe,
Both did deceive 'em, both their Faith abuſe;
To *Canaan*'s hungry Sword their Hoſt betray,
Their Wives and Children doom'd the Victor's prey:
This was too much, nor longer cou'd be born;
What they cou'd yet prevent they vainly mourn,
A Captain made to *Egypt* they'll return.

*Joſhua*

*Joshua* and gen'rous *Caleb* stood their Ground,
Of all the Spies, these only loyal found:
In vain they strive the heated Crowd t'appease.

" If God in us delight and him we please,
We soon shall in bless'd *Canaan*'s Land repose,
Bless'd *Canaan*'s Land with Milk and Hony flows;
The Natives vainly boast their Walls and Tow'rs,
Their Strength, their Hearts are gone, and God is ours:
Deaf to their Charms th' Assembly furious grown
A motion made they both the Traitors stone:
Intrepid still the mighty *Moses* staid,
And still to Heav'n that ne'r forsook him, pray'd:
So when rude Winds the angry Billows chase,
The steddy Steersman they'd in vain displace,
And dash the Salt-Sea Foam against his Face;
Whilst on the Star that must his Vessel guide
Fixing his Eyes he scorns the Ocean's Pride.
And now the Glory' of God appears on high,
And flashing Lightnings streak the angry Sky:
The Factious Heads who the just War oppose,
Abuse their trust and magnifie the Foes,
By a swift Plague from Heav'n of Life bereft,
*Caleb* and faithful *Joshua* only left:
The rest must to the howling Wild retire,
And wand'ring Forty Years unlov'd, unbless'd expire.

LXXVII.

## LXXVII.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XVI.

## KORAH's *Rebellion.*

NOR yet did Factions in th' Aſſembly ceaſe,
For *Korah*'s Arts diſturb their ſhort-liv'd Peace:
Of *Levi*'s Sons too many Names he draws,
Freedom the Plea, Int'reſt and Pride the Cauſe:
Of heavy Grievances aloud they cry'd,
That *Moſes* Rod did *Aaron*'s Cenſer guide:
The Lordly Prieſts no longer they'l obey,
Mean Inſtruments of baſe Deſpotick Sway.
*Moſes* of men the meekeſt they upbraid
That he'd their Ancient Liberties invade:
With theſe proud *Dathan* and *Abiram* join,
Of fault'ring *Reuben*'s weak and angry Line.
And ſtill they urge their forfeit Right Divine.
To them no Honour, no Preferments fall,
*Aaron* and *Judah* had engroſs'd 'em all:
They for their Birthright ſtrive; they *Levi* hate,
Yet Aid his angry Sons in this Debate.
Theſe in the *Sanhedrim* of Name and Note,
And us'd to ſway the Houſe of Judgement's Vote;
Whom the dull Crowd implicitly admir'd,
Hung on their Lips, and thought 'em all inſpir'd:
The mingled Multitude, that murmur'd ſtill,
From *Egypt* crowded on, and ſav'd againſt their will.

LXXVIII.

## LXXVIII.

### Dathan *and* Abiram *ſwallowed up.*

WHen all things now were ripe for miſchief grown,
*Korah* his Party heads, and leads 'em on:
Before the Altar they embattel'd ſtand
With each his kindled Cenſer in his Hand:
So far their Arts among the Tribes prevail,
That on their ſide the whole Aſſembly rail:
*Moſes* and *Aaron* all deſerted, blame,
(They did not ſo when they from *Egypt* came.)
Not one to own, or to defend 'em dares;
Nor did they Numbers need, for God was theirs;
When from the Cloud amazing Splendor broke,
And to his Servants thus *Jehova* ſpoke:
" Retire, my Friends, with ſpeed from this devoted Place,
" And in a moment I'll conſume this murm'ring Race.
The injur'd Saints for Mercy proſtrate fall,
Shall one offend, and Vengeance ſeize on all!
They intercede a moment e'r too late,
And ſtop the iſſuing Word before 'twas Fate.
The *Sanhedrim* converted with 'em joyn,
They ſaw th' Appearance of the Pow'r Divine:
To *Dathan* and *Abiram*'s factious Tent,
So Heav'n commands, they with 'em trembling went.
(*Korah* and his, to juſt Deſtruction doom'd,
The while, are by the Fire of God conſum'd.)
When *Moſes* thus -- If theſe Offenders fall
The common way that Nature paves for all,
I ask no Faith that I from God am ſent;
But if impatient Heav'n their Fates prevent;

If

## LXXVIII.

### NUMBERS, Chap. XVI. Ver. 19, 21. 22. 25. 28. to 34.

141



If gaping Earth ſhall them alive receive,
I'm no Impoſtor; you'll my Words believe.
Nor ſooner ſaid when dire Convulſions heave
The lab'ring Earth -- Behold its ſurface cleave;
The ſecret Realms of Ghoſts and Shades diſplay,
And let in Night upon th' invaded Day;
When thro' the horrid Chaſm the Traitors go,
And with loud Shrieks they ſink, deep, deep to Hell below.

LXXIX.

## LXXIX.

### Moſes *ſmites the Rock, and brings forth Water at* Meribah.

THE People now in *Rekam*'s Borders ſtand,
Horrid with barren Rocks, and Hills of Sand:
Mountains on huge miſhapen Mountains pil'd,
A Proſpect hideous, terrible and wild:
The Pilgrim-Stream which thro' the Deſart wide
Following the num'rous Hoſt their Thirſt ſupply'd,
Forſakes 'em here. - Th' Aſſembly *Moſes* chide:
Is this? is this the *Canaan* we muſt gain,
For which we travel'd croſs the ſandy Main,
And with vain Hopes forſook bleſs'd *Egypt*'s Fields?
No Figs or Vines th' unhappy Region yields;
No Seeds will on the the barren Surface grow;
Nor from the Rocks refreſhing Waters flow.
When from the Cloud th' All-high to *Moſes* ſpake,
The Rod of God agen commands him take;
Then bid the Rock diſcloſe its Secret Store,
And Wat'ry Treaſures never known before:
Provok'd, the Prophet his Commiſſion breaks,
And for the Rock the harder Crowd beſpeaks.

Hear now, ye Rebels! muſt ye hence receive
Miracu'lous Streams, nor will ye yet believe?
Then ſmote the Rock, when from its flinty Womb
Tumbling in loud Caſcades new Waters come
For all the Camp - But ah! how dear they coſt!
For this the angry Brethren *Canaan* loſt;

Con-

# LXXIX.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XX. from Ver. 1. to 12.

143



Condemn'd to die in Sight of that bleſs'd Land,
For raſhly diſobeying Heav'ns Command.

Holy, and Juſt, and True! thine *Iſrael* ſpare!
Let *Levi* all unſeemly Warmth forbear!
Like thee their Anger, tho' provok'd reſtrain;
So ſhall the Meek at length the Heav'nly *Canaan* gain.

## LXXX.

### *The Brazen Serpent ſet up.*

THE Floodborn Prophet guides the ſacred Hoſt,
Around their Brother *Edom*'s hoſtile Coaſt:
They thro' rough ways, thro' ſcorching Deſarts go,
Huge ragged Rocks above, and Sands below:
Agen of God and *Moſes* they complain,
And taſtful *Manna*, heavenly Food, diſdain:
The Lord diſpleas'd a dreadful Army ſent
Of fiery Serpents, who commanded went
Attack'd the Camp, and enter'd every Tent:
Among the reſt himſelf th' Old Serpent came
His Mouth, his Eyes ſhot Flakes of ſmoky Flame:
Rais'd on his Folds, a Crown adorn'd his head,
And hiſſing horrible his ſcaly Troops he led:
Their Quarry ſeiz'd they poiſnous Vapors breath
Around the Rebels twin'd, an odious Wreath,
And ſcatter every where Deſpair and Death:
Thoſe who eſcape to injur'd *Moſes* fly,
Their Guilt acknowledge, and for Mercy cry:
To angry Heav'n he for the People prays,
Which bids him ſtrait a *Brazen Serpent* raiſe
High in Mid-Air, which ſpeedy Eaſe ſhou'd give,
And all the wounded Hoſt who *look'd* ſhou'd *live*.

Nor

# LXXX.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXI. from Ver. 4. to 9.

149



v. 5. *The people ſpake againſt God, and againſt* Moſes, *&c.*

6. *And the Lord ſent fiery ſerpents among the people,* &c.

8. *And the Lord ſaid unto* Moſes, *make thee a fiery ſerpent, and ſet upon a pole: and it ſhall come to paſs, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, ſhall live.*

9. *And* Moſes *made a ſerpent of braſs, and put it upon a pole, and it came to paſs, that if a ſerpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the ſerpent of braſs, he lived.*

Nor did he this Delay, nor this in vain,
Whoever look, immediate eaſe obtain:
Their dying Eyes they turn, new Life receive,
Yet ſcarce themſelves the wond'rous Cure believe.
O thou, who on the curſed Tree wert rais'd,
While ſinful Men and wond'ring Angels gaz'd:
Whoſe Death our Life, whoſe charming Mercy brings
Health and Salvation underneath its Wings:
Thy Merits to our wounded Souls apply,
Thoſe who believe in thee, O Saviour! never die.

## LXXXI.

### *Sihon* and *Og*.

TO *Sihon*'s Confines *Iſrael*'s Sons drew near,
Tyrants like him are never void of Fear:
Their peaceful Hoſt his jealous Court alarms,
And the fierce King his ſervile Subjects arms:
In vain the Pilgrims friendly Terms propoſe,
He with no friendly Mind to meet 'em goes:
Their Troops with their long March fatigu'd, aſſails,
Yet ſoon the Juſtice of their Cauſe prevails.
The Tyrant falls, his Slaves no longer ſtand,
To his lov'd *Iſrael* God diſpos'd their Land.
A double Conqueſt now, but lately won,
From *Lot*'s inceſtuous Daughter's elder Son;
When *Heſhbon* ſhin'd in Flames, and all its State,
Cou'd not protect it from its ripen'd Fate.
Next, circling round, the ſacred Army came,
To *Baſhan*'s Region, not unknown to Fame.

Where

Where the rank Soil did Nature's Laws refuſe,
And Giant-Beaſts, and Monſter-Men produce,
Huge *Og* their King, an Iron Army brought.
In *Edrei*'s Fields with trembling *Iſrael* fought.
His Sons like lofty Pines around him ſtood,
He, like a Cedar in the midſt, o'relooking all the Wood.
An Iron gleam the hideous Monſter made,
His Guards, like Dwarfts, fought underneath his Shade.
Nor this diſcourag'd *Moſes* from the Fight,
Singly reſolv'd to tempt his boaſted might:
Nor had his nervous Arms forgot to wield,
The biting Ax, or pond'rous brazen Shield:
The moody Tyrant fearleſs he aſſails,
And in the Lord of Hoſt's dread Name prevails.
His Head that tow'r'd aloft, he cou'd not reach,
But thro' his Boſom drives a fatal Breach:
The ſpouting Life a Speedy Paſſage found,
He falls a cumbrous Load, and dints the trembling Ground.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXI. Ver. 21. to the End.

v. 23. ---- Sihon *gathered all his people together, and went out againſt* Iſrael *into the wilderneſs: and he came to* Jahaz, *and fought againſt* Iſrael.

24. *And* Iſrael *ſmote him with the edge of the ſword,* &c.

33. ---- Og *the king* Baſhan *went out againſt them he, and all his people,* &c.

35. *So they ſmote him and his ſons, and all his people, until there was none left him alive,* &c.

## LXXXII.

### Balak *ſends to* Balaam, *&c. The Aſs ſpeaks.*

WHen Heav'n will blaſt a lofty Tyrant's reign,
His Cunning and his Force are all in vain:
In vain he ſtrives againſt its ſtrong Decree,
His Hopes are Wind, his End is Infamy.
This, *Balak*, Lord of faithleſs *Moab* found,
When *Iſrael*'s Songs approach'd his *Eaſtern* Bound:
When human Succours fail, to Hell he goes,
With curs'd Enchantments to confound his Foes.
To *Balaam*, thro' the *Eaſt* too widely known,
By Magic infamouſly famous grown;
Who by ſtrong Charms, and many a ſecret Spell,
The ſervile Gods cou'd to his Aid compel:
No vulgar Embaſſy the Tyrant ſends,
Of *Moab*'s Lords, and *Midianitiſh* Friends:
T' enquire of Heav'n the Sorcerer pretends.
But to the Fiends in dead of Night he goes,
And asks their Counſel to deſtroy their Foes.
In vain obſequious to his Charms they come,
His Threats in vain, their Oracles are dumb.
When lo! a heav'nly Light the Room invades,
And chaſes thence the foul infernal Shades:
They durſt not ſtay, for God himſelf was there,
Concern'd for *Iſrael*, his peculiar Care;
Beware, he crys, audacious Wretch beware,
Move not a Foot, thou canſt not hope ſucceſs,
Nor canſt thou curſe the Man whom God will bleſs.

Trembling

# LXXXII.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXII. Ver. 4. to 35.

149



v. 28. ---- *The aſs ſaid unto* Balaam, *what have I done unto thee, that thou haſt ſmitten me theſe three times?*

29. *And* Balaam *ſaid unto the aſs, becauſe thou haſt mocked me: I would there were a ſword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.*

30. *And the aſs ſaid unto* Balaam, *am not I thine aſs, upon which thou haſt ridden ever ſince I was thine, unto this day? was I ever wont to do ſo unto thee? and he ſaid, nay.*

31. *Then the Lord opened the eyes of* Balaam, *and he ſaw the angel of the Lord ſtanding in the way, and his ſword drawn in his hand,* &c.

Trembling he heard, unwillingly obey'd,
And *Balak*'s Lords return'd, behind 'em ſtay'd.
But when a ſecond Embaſſy he ſent,
The wav'ring Wizard roſe, and with 'em went.
The Wages of Unrighteouſneſs he choſe,
But ſee a Mighty Angel him oppoſe:
His Aſs at firſt the ſhining Form eſpy'd,
And ſtarted oft, and oft he turn'd aſide.
In vain he ſtrikes, and works her to the Road,
Till down ſhe ſinks beneath her impious Load.
With ſilent Looks complaining of the Wrong,
When Heav'n, (What cannot Heav'n!) unloos'd her Tongue.
With human Voice form'd in her ſecret Breaſt,
She the mad Prophet's brutal Rage repreſs'd;
Whoſe eyes unſeal'd, he ſees the Angel ſtand,
A flaming Sabre in his vengeful Hand,
Pointed againſt his Breaſt; to Earth he falls,
And half a Penitent, for Mercy calls.
The Angel lets him ſtill purſue his way,
But bids him only what high Heav'n ſhou'd dictate, ſay.

## LXXXIII.

NUMBERS, Chap. XXII. 39. 41. XXIII. 1. 5. 7. to 10. 21. to 24.

Balak *meets* Balaam. *His Sacrifice*, &c.

TO *Huzzoth*'s Town the King and Prophet come,
Which from its ſpatious Streets receiv'd its Name;
To

To *Baal*'s high Places thence together go,
There to ſurvey and curſe their hated Foe:
Sev'n Altars that falſe Wizard bids them rear,
A Bullock and a Ram on each prepare;
Thus did the *Zabii*'s Heathen Rites adviſe,
And to the Planets thus they ſacrifice.
When lo a Pow'r unknown the Sage oppreſs'd,
Spake with his Lips, and ſtruggled in his Breaſt:
Heav'n, which before his Aſs's Tongue did looſe,
Her impious Maſter's now is pleas'd to uſe:
Unwillingly inſpir'd he can't forbear,
But muſt theſe bold ungrateful Truths declare.
" In vain has *Balak* me from *Aram* ſought,
" In vain has from the *Eaſtern* Mountains brought,
" *Jacob* to curſe, and *Iſrael* to diſtreſs,
" Ah! who can curſe the Man whom God will bleſs?
" Vain Idols he in *Jacob* has not found,
" Whoſe ſhameful Worſhip fills the Nations round.
" What Charms can then againſt his Sons prevail?
" Divining's loſt, and ſtrong Enchantments fail.
" I ſee him from the Mountains wide away,
" And from the craggy Rocks his Camps ſurvey:
" His God's peculiar choice, he dwells alone,
" His Numbers as the Duſt or Sand unknown.
" With him, O let me to the Grave deſcend!
" What e'er my Life, like his I'd wiſh my End.
" Is God like Man, to Lie, or to Repent?
" Who can his Words reverſe, or who prevent?
" What Jubilees, what Triumphs ſhall proclaim
" The peaceful Kings, the Great *Meſſiah*'s Name?
" His *Iſrael* God from *Egypt*'s Bondage led;
" See his protecting Cloud around him ſpred!
" Couch'd like a Lion ſafe beneath its Shade,
" What deſp'rate Mortal dares his awful Reſt in-
" vade?

## LXXXIV.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXIV.

### Balaam *bleſſes* Iſrael. *He Propheſies of* Chriſt, *the* Aſſyrians, *and* Romans, &c.

WHen *Balaam* found his Charms had no Succeſs,
But his own *Iſrael* God reſolv'd to bleſs;
Deluſive Auguries he ſought no more
Nor follow'd curs'd Enchantments as before:
Another Spi'rit had ſeiz'd the alter'd Sage,
And ſwell'd his Boſom with diviner Rage:
Fierce *Balak*'s Anger he does now diſdain,
(His Golden Promiſes alike in vain,)
And thus of all the World the diſtant Fates explain.
" How goodly, *Jacob!* are thy Tents! how fair!
" They with the fertile Valleys may compare;
" Or Gardens richly deck'd with Nature's Pride,
" Whoſe Verdant Trees by ſome fair River's Side
" Like Cedars Tall in comely Order grow,
" And view their Branches in the Streams below:
" Beyond a Mortal's Skill their vaſt Deſign,
" The Model and the Structure all divine.
" To me th' Almighty has his Will declar'd;
" What Viſions have I ſeen, what Wonders heard?
" Far off I ſee a radiant Star ariſe,
" And with new wond'rous Light adorn the Skies:
" The Orient ſhall his fated Empire gain,
" Of *Jacob*'s Race the Great Meſſiah reign:
" *Moab* and all the Heathen Lands his Prey,
" The ſpacious Globe ſhall his Commands obey.

Thy

Thy Sons, Proud *Amalek!* he next ſurveys
In *Canaan*'s Southern Bounds, and thus he ſays.
" Of all the Nations Thou didſt firſt declare
" Againſt God's Favourite People impious War:
" Too weak thy Arms, unequal this Debate,
" Ruin, eternal Ruin is thy Fate.
To *Jethro*'s Offspring next he turns his Eyes:
" Strong is thy Dwelling-Place, thy choice is wiſe;
" Happy Exchange, he ſays; yet all in vain,
" Thy Doom at length to wear Proud *Aſher*'s Chain:
" Ah who ſhall live that ſees that luckleſs Day!
" Yet worſe behind! behold the Weſtern Sea
" Cover'd with Ships, whence *Chittim*'s Offspring come,
" And thy renowned Sons, O future *Rome!*
" *Aſhur* muſt fall, and *Heber* ſtrives in vain,
" For ſo the ſtrong Decrees of Fate ordain:
" Nor ſhall their haughty Victor long ſurvive;
" Empire, like Men, their ſtated Periods live:
" Eternal *Rome* muſt die, her Reign is o'r,
" Tumbling from her proud Hills ſhe falls to riſe no more.

## LXXXV.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXV.

### Zimri *and* Cozbi.

WHat Hell's and *Moab*'s Force and Fraud combin'd,
In vain attempted, and in vain deſign'd,
At length by Female Guile accompliſh'd ſee,
And *Iſrael* naked to its Enemy!

Each

Each Civil Hoſt, t' oblige his *Hebrew* Friend,
Their Gods, and more, their Wives and Daughters lend;
Whoſe Charms than *Balaam*'s Curſes far more ſtrong,
More pow'rful Magic in their Eyes and Tongue:
With theſe they their enchanted Gueſts intice
To their lewd Idols pompous Sacrifice:
*Peor* of old, thro' *Moabs* Regions fam'd,
In after-Days the foul *Priapus* nam'd.
Nor did th' unnurtur'd Crowd alone rebel,
For in the ſpecious Snare their Nobles fell:
*Zimri*, a noted Chief of *Simeons* Race,
Who Private Lewdneſs only, thought diſgrace,
In open Day falſe *Cozbi* with him brings,
Sprung from the Stem of *Midianitiſh* Kings:
Nor Zealous *Phineas* this, who ſnatch'd a Spear
Which double Death on its Sharp Point did wear,
And in the very Act of Lewdneſs found
Transfix'd 'em both, and nail'd 'em to the Ground:
Nor this without Commiſſion he preſum'd,
For God's dread Word before to Death had doom'd
Each Wretch whom foul Idolatry had ſtain'd:
Nor unrewarded his juſt Zeal remain'd:
Thoſe guilty Victims angry Heav'n appeas'd,
And in the Camp the wide Contagion ceas'd:
The Covenant of Peace his Juſtice gains,
An everlaſting Prieſthood he obtains.

Has bounteous Heav'n exhauſted all its ſtore?
And can unbounded Goodneſs give no more?
There is, there is, a ſure Reward for thoſe
Who own its Cauſe againſt its mighty Foes:
Who bear the Sword with an impartial Hand,
And in the Breach, firm and undaunted ſtand,
To puniſh daring Vice, and ſave a Guilty Land.

# LXXXVI.

## NUMBERS, Chap. XXXI.

### *The War with* Midian.

VEngeance divine, unerring, tho' 'tis ſlow,
Suſpends its Arm to give the greater Blow.
For all the Whores and Gods that *Midian* gave
The choſen Race to weaken and enſlave,
Twelve Thouſand Warriours harneſs'd for the Fight
Muſt now their curs'd Civilities requite:
Brave *Phinehas* gladly leads the choſen Band,
The Trump of God adorns his ſtrong Right-Hand:
In vain th' unequal Foes their Hoſt ſurround,
And like unnumber'd Locuſts ſpread the Ground.
Sound! Sound a Charge! They ſhake, they bend, they fly,
And *Iſrael* gains an eaſy Victory.
Falſe *Midian*'s haughty Princes ſtrive in vain,
*Zur*, *Evi*, *Rekem*, *Hur*, and *Reba* ſlain;
Whoſe Fate their Wizard-Prophet *Balaam* ſhares,
Victorious *Iſrael*'s juſt Revenge he bears,
He ſcap'd the Angel's Sword, but cou'd not theirs.
Into the Countries Heart (their Army broke)
They pierce, and gain their Towns without a ſtroke.
With Fire and Sword the Treach'rous Race purſue,
Their Palaces they burnt, their Men they ſlew.

But

But a falſe Pity pleaded for the Fair,
The fatal Cauſes of the War they ſpare:
Theſe with uncounted Spoils, they bear away,
And to their Breth'rens joyful Camp convey:
When *Moſes* ſaw, his Anger juſtly roſe:
" --- What Madneſs this, to ſpare your ſtrongeſt Foes?
" A mortal Plague they brought, themſelves a worſe;
" Where *Balaam* cou'd not, theſe prevail'd to curſe.
" Your Swords againſt the ſplendid Serpents turn,
" Who have their Thouſands ſlain: Let *Midian* mourn,
" As *Iſrael* did before -- They plead in vain;
Juſt, tho ſevere their Doom, the ſpecious Plagues are ſlain.

## LXXXVII.

## DEUTERONOMY, Chap. XXVII.

### Ebal *and* Gerizim.

IN *Moab's* Borders now the People ſtand,
Whom *Moſes* thus accoſts by Heav'ns command:
When *Jordan* paſs'd, you ſeize the Promis'd Land;
Two hanging Rocks you'll ſee with equal Pride
Thruſt out their rugged Fronts on either ſide:

Like

Like ſome huge Arches diſtant Ruins ſhow,
Whoſe mould'ring Walls affright the Vale below:
Be half the People plac'd on *Ebal*'s Brim,
The other on the cloudy *Gerizim*:
When *Levi* thus the Curſes ſhall repeat
Which GOD's juſt Laws on harden'd Sinners threat.

Curs'd be the Man who Gold or Silver takes,
And an abominable Idol makes!
In vain he ſets it in a ſecret Place;
Juſt Vengeance him ſhall find, and all his Race.
An equal Curſe thoſe Wretches ſhall oppreſs
Who ſlight their Aged Parents in diſtreſs:
Thoſe who the Ancient Land-Mark move away,
And thoſe who make the helpleſs Blind to ſtray:
Who poor unfriended Strangers ſhall oppreſs,
Or wrong the Widow, and the Fatherleſs:
Whom Inceſt, or unnatural Crimes delight,
Or who in ſecret ſhall their Neighbour ſmite:
Who for Reward the Innocent purſue,
Or who in Blood their guilty Hands embrue:
Who not confirm each awful Word they hear;
All are accurs'd, and all their Sin ſhall bear:
While diſtant Eccho ſounds each Curſe agen,
All *Iſrael* to each Curſe ſhall give their loud *Amen!*

## LXXXVIII.

### Moſes's *View of* Canaan. *His Death, Burial, and Elegy.*

HOW dear did One raſh Word the Prophet coſt!
For this his Life, and more, he *Canaan* loſt:
His temperate Youth with vigorous Age was bleſs'd,
And no Decays his num'rous Years confeſs'd:
His Eyes as full of Fire, his Pulſe as warm
As when th' abhorr'd *Egyptian* felt his Arm:
Yet he muſt die -- But firſt the Favour gain'd
To ſee the Land for *Iſrael*'s Sons ordain'd:
Behold him to the Top of *Piſgah* go,
And view the Country and the Clouds below!
Sweet *Jericho*'s delightful Town and Plain,
And *Judah*'s Lot to the Great Weſtern Main:
From thence to North ſurvey with longing Eyes,
Where goodly *Lebanon*'s fair Cliffs ariſe,
Whoſe Tall Eternal Cedars threat the Skies.
Laſt of the Southern Wild a Proſpect take
To *Caſiotis*, and the *Syrbon*-Lake:
He cou'd no more, but on the Turf reclin'd,
As meekly as he liv'd, his Soul reſign'd:
Officious *Seraphs* bare his Soul away,
And to a happier *Canaan* him convey:

But

# LXXXIX.

## DUTERONOMY, Chap. XXXIV.

159



V. 1. Moſes *went up from the plains of* Moab *unto the mountain of* Nebo, *to the top of* Piſgah, *that is over againſt* Jericho: *and the Lord ſhewed him all the land of* Gilead, *unto* Dan, &c.

V. 4. *And the Lord ſaid unto him, this is the land which I ſware unto* Abraham, *unto* Iſaac, *and unto* Jacob, *ſaying, I will give it unto thy ſeed: I have cauſed thee to ſee it with thine eyes, but thou ſhalt not go over thither.*

V. 5, 6. *And* Moſes *the ſervant of the Lord died there; but no man knoweth of his ſepulchre unto this day.*

But

But God himſelf his Fun'ral Honours pay'd,
And in a Tomb unknown to Mortals laid:
Nor this enough, O favour'd Saint for thee;
Since God himſelf thus wrote thy Elegy.

" What Prophet by the Sacred Breath inſpir'd,
" What Friend of God with Holy Raptures fir'd,
" Whoſe Deathleſs Name can equal Glories ſhare,
" Or with my Servant *Moſes* can compare?
" With Mortal Eyes th' Inviſible he ſaw,
" On trembling *Sinai*'s Top receiv'd the Law:
" From *Egypt*'s Fetters ranſom'd *Iſrael* brought,
" And in their ſight, dread Signs, and mighy Wonders wrought.

## LXXXIX.

## JOSHUA, Chap. I. Ver. 1. 2. Chap. II. Rahab *and the Spies.*

ENtomb'd in *Moab*'s Valley *Moſes* lies;
*Jehova* bids the Valiant *Joſhua* riſe;
Second in Honour fill his Vacant Place,
And to their happy Seats conduct the choſen Race:
The Prudent General's Thoughts and Care no leſs,
Tho' Heav'n itſelf aſſures him of Succeſs:
Two Spies to neighb'ring *Jericho* he ſent,
Nor undiſcover'd thro' the Guards they went:
The jealous King appriz'd of their Intent,

With

With ſpeed his Guards to faithful *Rahab* ſends,
But *Rahab*'s Houſe conceals her *Hebrew* Friends:
The Souldiers hope in vain their Prey to find,
Pour'd thro' the Eaſtern Gate as ſwift as Wind,
In vain purſuing thoſe who ſtaid behind;
To whom their Fair Preſerver thus begins:
" Too well we know the weight of *Canaan*'s Sins:
" Your Title and Poſſeſſion Heav'n ſecures;
" Yours are our Cities, and our Land is Yours:
" A *Panic* Fear does every Breaſt invade,
" We faint, we melt, of *Iſrael*'s Arms afraid.
" We've heard how God did you thro' Seas convey,
" While parting Waters ſhow'd your wond'rous way:
" What you to *Sihon* and to *Og* have done,
" Trembling we hear, and make their Fates our own:
" Since then with hazard of my Life conceal'd,
" Nor to the threatning cheated Guards reveal'd,
" The Mercy I have ſhown you, let me find,
" And to my Father's Houſe be juſt and kind.
" Swear by the Pow'r that loves your Nation Swear
" The hungry Sword their precious Lives ſhall ſpare:
They did, then o'r the Wall ſhe lets 'em down,
They to the Mountain flee, and leave the Town:
Three Days conceal'd in *Palm*-Tree Groves they lay
Almoſt impervious to the All-ſearching Day;
Then fording *Jordan*, to the Camp repair;
To *Joſhua* and the reſt the joyful news they bear.

## XC.

### Jordan *divided.* Iſrael *paſſes over.*

THE Hoſt of God, a mighty Hoſt, remain,
Near *Jordan*'s Banks decamp'd from *Shittim*'s Plain :
With longing Eyes they view'd, unſatisfy'd,
Their promis'd Fields that grac'd his *Weſtern* ſide,
Still to their Wiſhes and their Vows deny'd ;
For *Jordan* now his ſlimy Banks o'reflows,
And broad as Father *Nile*, or *Ganges* grows.
In vain, for Nature to her Lord gives way :
When Seas divide, can Rivers not obey ?
The Prieſts, in Stoles of pureſt Linen, bear
The dreadful Ark, and to the Brink repair ;
Nor ſooner on the utmoſt Rivage tread,
When, lo! the Waters ſaw, and backward fled,
Their ancient Courſe forgot, and Oozy Bed ;
Far, far away to *Adam*'s diſtant Strand,
And furl'd on Heaps like Icy Mountains ſtand :
While thoſe below fail from the Salt-ſea Plain,
Whoſe thirſty Soil expects their cooling Waves in vain.
This great Event the trembling Guards perceive,
From *Jericho*, and ſcarce their Eyes believe :
Thick on the Walls and Battlements they ſtood,
To their chill Hearts retir'd the curdling Blood :
They ſaw the ranſom'd Flock come ſafely o're,
And with glad Shouts ſalute the welcom Shore :
Twelve weighty Stones from *Jordan* ſaw them take,
And Signals of their wondrous Paſſage make :

Nor

# XC.

## JOSHUA, Chap. III. Ver. 1. to 17. Chap. IV. Ver. 5. to 18.

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Chap. IV. Ver. 5. Joſhua *ſaid, Paſs over before the ark of the Lord your God into the midſt of* Jordan, *and take ye up every man of you a ſtone upon his ſhoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of* Iſrael.

6. *That this may be a ſign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, ſaying, What mean you by theſe ſtones?*

7. *Then ye ſhall anſwer them,* &c.

Nor ſooner had the Prieſts the Channel paſs'd,
Who as they enter'd firſt, aſcended laſt:
The Firm no ſooner by their Sandals preſs'd,
And on the ſedgy Banks the Ark did reſt;
When *Jordan* breaks with burſt of Thunder's roar,
Like ſome fierce Eagre ſweeps each ſounding Shore,
And ſhoots its foaming Waves as widely as before.

## XCI.

## JOSHUA, Chap. V. Ver. 13. to the End.

### Joſhua *ſees the Captain of the Lord's Hoſt.*

NOW *Iſrael*'s Army *Jericho* inveſt,
And with a ſtrong Blockade 'tis cloſely preſs'd:
Alone the fearleſs *Joſhua* walks the round,
To view the Place, if any weakneſs found,
Or to ſurprize, or ſtorm from advantageous Ground.
Thoughtful he ſtood, reclining on his Spear,
When lo! he ſees an awful Form appear.
Mortal he ſeem'd, yet more than mortal Grace,
And Splendor terrible adorn'd his Face.
A Sword he graſp'd, as bright as it were made,
Of a portentous Comets flaming Blade:
When thus the General of the choſen Hoſt,
The Great unknown undaunted did accoſt.

" From whence, and whoſe? What art thou, ſoon
" declare,
" For *Canaan* or for *Iſrael*, Peace or War?
*Michael* am I, the ſhining Form reply'd,
Sent from the Throne the Hoſt of God to guide:
Proſtrate the General falls, and prints the Sand,
And waits for his Superior's dread Command;
He bids, to looſe his Sandals not diſdain,
Nor with irreverend Steps the hallow'd Place
profane:
*Joſhua* obeys, new Orders he receives,
Whom, mounting to the Clouds, the heav'nly Viſions leaves.

## XCII.

### *The Walls of* Jericho *fall down, the City taken:* Rahab *and her Family preſerv'd.*

HOW vain are human Arts, whoſe beſt Defence,
Betrays our Guilt, or owns our Impotence.
The ſtrongeſt Walls an inward Fear confeſs,
Corſlets and Shields, and glittring Helms no leſs;
And Force or Fraud o'er our weak Frames prevail,
Tho' arm'd with Tow'rs, or wall'd with Coats of Mail.
If from our fellow Mortals unſecure,
What Fortreſs can, againſt juſt Heav'n enſure?
What rocky Ramparts may its Bolts endure?
Nor needs it the red Thunder ſtill unſheath,
Nor grants each guilty Wretch ſo great a Death.

It can with Arms contemptible confound,
And ſolid Subſtance ſhake with airy Sound:
This, *Jericho*, thy tott'ring Walls declare,
No Steel-head Rams, no ſtrong Machins of War
Provok'd that Fate which for thy Crimes was juſt,
And roll'd thy ancient Honours in the Duſt:
But *Iſrael*'s Sons, ſo Heav'n commands, ſurround
Thy Ramparts with the clanging Trumpet's ſound:
The Prieſts, the Ark in long Proceſſion bore,
The harneſs'd Warriors ſilent march'd before:
A Week of Days they proſecute their Toil,
While from the Walls th' abhorr'd *Barbarians* ſmile:
But ſcarce the ſeventh bleſs'd Morn had deck'd the Skies,
When with new Hopes inſpir'd th' Aſſembly riſe:
Sev'n times the nodding Tow'rs and Walls they paſs'd,
And *Joſhua* gives the Signal at the laſt:
Now ſhout, he ſaid, your Conqueſt Heav'n aſſures;
Aſcend! for the devoted Town is yours:
Let *Rahab* live, but all the reſt muſt die,
So loud their ripen'd Sins for Vengeance cry:
The Spoil is God's, beware th' accurſed Thing,
Leſt on yourſelves and us the Curſe you bring.
He ſaid, with ſhouts the Army rends the Skies,
Tumble the Walls, thick Clouds of Duſt ariſe:
So burſts a Torrent from the Mountains ſide,
So roars the Thunder thro' the Welkin wide:
Each in his Rank aſcends from where he ſtood,
The City's won, and fill'd with Fire and Blood,
*Rahab* alone her Countries Loſs ſurvives,
And with her Fathers Houſe in *Iſrael* lives;
Whom Holy Bands to Princely *Salmon* joyn,
Whence a long Race of Kings in *Judah*'s ſacred Line.

# XCII.

## JOSHUA, Chap. IV. Ver. 20. to 23.

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V. 20. *The people ſhouted when the prieſts blew with the trumpets: and it came to paſs when the people heard the ſound of the trumpet, and the people ſhouted with a great ſhout, that the wall fell down flat, ſo that the people went up into the city, every man ſtraight before him, and they took the city.*

21. *And they utterly deſtroyed all that was in the city,* &c.

23. ----*But they brought out* Rahab, *and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that ſhe had,* &c.

## XCIII.

## Joshua, Chap. VII. and VIII.

### Achan *and* Ai.

HUnger of Gold, and Sacrilegious Thirſt,
Unſatisfied to be alone accurs'd,
Your pois'nous Influence larger Conqueſts gains,
And blaſts th' unhappy Nation where it reigns.
One *Achan* Iſraels Glory can deface,
And ſpread wide Vengeance round the ſacred Race.
For *Ai*, Three Thouſand Warriors now prepare,
More than enough their Force, had God been there,
--- But he was gone, and Conqueſt with him led,
Before their feeble Enemies they fled:
Some fall transfix'd, and wounded ſome return;
They melt, they faint, the whole Aſſembly mourn:
Proſtrate on Earth afflicted *Joſhua* lay
With *Iſrael*'s Elders all that luckleſs Day,
Their Cloths they rend; around 'em Sackloth ſpread,
And ſcatter Duſt on each diſhonour'd Head.
When God to *Joſhua* did the Crime diſcloſe,
Which made his People naked to their Foes:
The blaſting Sacrilegious Guilt reveals,
Tho' for a while the guilty Wretch conceals:

But

But that th' unerring Lot at length decides,
And Tribe from Tribe, and Houſe from Houſe divides:
Singling at laſt devoted *Achan*'s Head,
Paler than Death when his black Name was read:
Trembling and manifeſt of Guilt he ſtands,
When *Joſhua* mildly all the Truth demands,
As beſt becomes a Judge -- Th' accurs'd replies
His Sacrilege confeſs'd, and Avarice;
Among the Spoils he ſaw a goodly Prize,
A Royal Garment, glorious to behold,
Embroder'd rich, and ſqualid all with Gold:
And near, a Golden Wedge inviting lay'd;
The precious Spoils he to the Camp convey'd:
Nor theſe alone, a Heap of Silver coin'd
Hid cloſe in Earth they in his Tent might find.
Both theſe, and all who did his Crime partake
They with their Sire a juſt Example make:
Beneath a Show'r of Stones the Traitors groan,
And happy He by whom the Firſt was thrown.
When thus they angry Heav'ns fierce Wrath appeaſe,
Proud *Ai* is conquer'd and deſtroy'd with eaſe.
" Might all our *Achan*'s ſuch a Vengeance ſee,
" Our *Iſrael* cou'd not miſs to gain the Victory.

XCIV.

## XCIV.

## Joshua, Chap. IX. and X.

### Gibeon *makes a League with* Joshua. *The Kings diſcomfited who combin'd againſt it. The Sun and the Moon ſtand ſtill.*

THE Tidings ſoon thro' *Canaan*'s Regions flown,
They hear their Neighbour's Fates, and dread their own:
Yet juſtly harden'd in their Crimes oppoſe
With Force united their unequal Foes:
*Gibeon* alone by Wiles a Peace obtain'd,
Gladly their Lives, tho' not their Freedom gain'd:
Againſt whoſe Walls the Lord of *Jebus* brings
A num'rous Hoſt of tributary Kings:
*Hebron*, and *Jarmuth*, and ſtrong *Lachiſh* joyn'd,
With learned *Debir*'s pow'rful Prince combin'd:
The *Gibeonites* diſtreſs'd with Numbers, fly
For Succour to their New and Great Ally:
Oblig'd by ſacred Oaths to their Defence,
For ſacred Oaths cou'd then oblige a Prince:
Brave *Joſhua* heard, nor timely help delay'd,
But marches ſtrait to his Confed'rates Aid:

All

All Night he march'd, and as the Morning roſe,
Fell furious in upon his careleſs Foes:
Th' Intrenchments gain'd, How vaſt a Carnage made?
And roll'd in Duſt, what heaps of Princes laid?
Slaughter was glutted, Ruin wanted Breath,
And panting *Hades* ſcarce cou'd follow Death:
Who ſcap'd the hungry Sword, in vain wou'd fly,
Beneath prodigious Show'rs of Hail they die:
A diſmal Gleam th' affrighted Sun did yield,
And gather'd ſanguine Vapours from the Field:
When *Joſhua* ſtretch'd aloft his knotty Spear,
And thus began, "Ye rolling Heav'ns, give Ear!
'Attend, O ſilent Moon! thou Solar Brightneſs,
"hear!
"---Stand! -- in your Maker's Name, I charge you
"ſtand,
"While *Iſrael* executes his dread Command!
They heard; the great Machine no longer rolls,
It ſtood unmov'd and ſtable as the Poles:
Nature the ſtop perceiv'd, and ſhook for fear,
She thought her fatal Period now was near:
Scarce more amaz'd, when this great Frame gives way,
And Earth and Heav'n ſhall mingled fall at the laſt dreadful Day.

XCT.

## XCV.

## JOSHUA, Chap. XXIII. and XXIV.

### Joſhua's *Advice, and laſt Speech to* Iſrael. *His Death.*

WHen *Canaan*'s Natives ſlain or diſpoſſeſs'd,
And God by *Joſhua* gave his *Iſrael* reſt;
Bending with Age his Duſt to Duſt inclin'd,
But firm and vigorous ſtill his deathleſs Mind:
E're what was Mortal to Corruption falls,
Of *Iſrael*'s States he an Aſſembly calls,
Then thus began--- Near broad *Euphrates* ſide,
Your Paynim Fathers did of old reſide:
From thence was *Abr'ham* call'd to this bleſs'd Land,
Whoſe Seed unnumber'd as the Stars or Sand:
Nor have you yet forgot the Wonders wrought,
When God your Fathers out of *Egypt* brought,
Nor how the *Amorites* againſt you fought:
How treach'rous *Balak* did for *Balaam* ſend,
How vain his Curſes, how deſerv'd his End.
What Nations leagu'd your Conqueſts to prevent,
Deſtroy your Name, and fruſtrate Heav'ns intent:

Heav'n

Heav'n, which has now ſubdu'd your pow'rful Foe,
And not your own Right-hand, your Sword or Bow;
Has giv'n a Land where Milk and Honey flow:
Whoſe happy Fields without your Toil, produce
The Olives, and the Grapes reviving Juice:
What ſhall you for his Goodneſs, then repay?
*Jehovah* fear, and him ſincere, obey.
That Idol-Fire which *Cheſed*'s Sons adore,
Th' *Egyptian* Gods, which vainly guard their Shore,
Exterminate their very Names, and be
Alone devote to *Iſrael*'s Deity.
If this bleſs'd Service you ingrate, refuſe,
Declare whoſe Altars you deſign to chuſe!
---Or thoſe which *Abraham* did in *Ur* forſake,
Or *Canaan*'s Gods, whoſe helpleſs Shrines you brake?
For me and mine, while vital Breath ſhall laſt,
Our happy Choice is made, our Lot is caſt:
To God alone we'll Adoration pay,
To *Iſrael*'s God, whom Earth and Heav'n obey.
He ſaid, Then does his Limbs to Reſt compoſe,
And whilſt his Eyes ſurrounding Princes cloſe,
To *Abraham*'s Boſom, and his great Fore-fathers goes.

XCVI.

## XCVI.

### *War with the* Canaanites. Bezek *taken.* Adoni-bezek *punish'd.*

TO *Shiloh*'s Oracle the Tribes repair,
And wait for Orders to renew the War:
Warn'd by their murm'ring Fathers impious Rage,
They dare no more without Command engage:
Brave *Judah*'s Sons the Posts of Honour gain,
Which with sev'n harness'd *Myriads* they maintain;
Their Royal Lion warring in the Field,
Unknowing to retreat, and less to yield:
Proud *Bezek*'s spatious Walls with Turrets crown'd,
On ev'ry side the Host of God surround:
Too weak the Town to bear their first attack,
They push the Foe, they storm, they gain, they sack;
While *Bezek*'s haughty Lord resists in vain,
Nor can his trembling Guards the Fight maintain:
Ignoble Flight with like Success he tries,
A short Reprieve with Shame too dearly buys:
Pursu'd and seiz'd, the same hard Fate he bore,
Which sev'nty Kings had done from him before;
Who glean'd their Meat beneath the Tyrant's Board,
The Footstools they of their imperious Lord;
Maim'd and abus'd--- he still prolong'd their Breath,
As envy'ng them the Luxury of Death.
He owns his Fate is Just--- and so must all,
Who as they trace his Crimes may share his Fall:
Stifled with Malice, Pride and Rage he dies,
To clear a Providence, and vindicate the Skies.

# CXVI.

## JUDGES, Chap. I. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 8.

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Ver. 5. *They found* Adoni-bezek *in* Bezek: *and they fought againſt him, and they ſlew the* Canaanites, *and the* Perizzites.

6. *But* Adoni-bezek *fled, and they purſued after him and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.*

7. *And* Adoni-bezek *ſaid, Threeſcore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, ſo God hath requited me.*

## XCVII.

## Judah *conquers* Hebron *and* Debir. Achsah *given to* Othniel.

STrong *Hebron* next thro' *Canaan*'s Regions fam'd,
Of old from *Anakean Arba* nam'd;
*Judah*'s victorious Army dar'd oppose,
Who saw unmov'd their huge Gigantic Foes:
The monstrous Sons of *Anak* saw from far,
Each nodding Terrour, each himself a War.
Low in the Plain encamp'd the *Hebrews* lay,
Whom from the Walls with scorn their Foes survey:
Behold above the rest proud *Sheshai* stand,
Who own'd no God but his own strong Right-hand:
The Fear of *Israel* he aloud defies,
And darts retorted curses at the Skies:
Nor valiant *Othniel* this, who from below,
Shoots o're the Hill to meet th' unequal Foe:
Thro' Darts, thro' Swords, thro' Show'rs of Death he's born,
Thro' rocky Fragments from the Mountain torn:
See him upon the tallest Rampart stand,
And meet the bold Blasphemer hand to hand:
His well-known Sword he rais'd (the dreadful Blade,
With choicest Skill at rich *Damascus* made,)
And cleaves him to the Twist.------
---Still like a half demolish'd Tow'r he stood,
And his warm Entrails spouted Seas of Blood:

At length he falls, and num'rous Crowds beneath,
In his wide Ruins find their Grave and Death:
Dread and Diſmay the weak Defendants ſeize,
By *Iſrael* trampled, and deſtroy'd with eaſe.
To *Debir* next victorious *Othniel* goes,
Their Battlements he ſcales, and routs his Foes:
Below the beauteous *Achſah* view'd the Fight,
Honour and Love at once enflam'd her Knight:
Honour bids high, but Love had ſtronger Charms,
He comes, and reaps the Fruit of Conqueſt in her Arms.

## JUDGES, Chap. I. Ver. 10. to 13.

Ver. 10. *And* Judah *went againſt the* Canaanites *that dwelt in* Hebron, *(now the name of* Hebron *before was* Kirjath-arba*) and they ſlew* Sheſhai *and* Ahiman, *and* Talmai.

11. *And from thence he went againſt the inhabitants of* Debir: *(and the name of* Debir *before was* Kirjath-ſepher,*)*

12. *And* Caleb *ſaid, He that ſmiteth* Kirjath-ſepher, *and taketh it, to him will I give* Achſah *my daughter to wife.*

13. *And* Othniel *the ſon of* Kenaz, Calebs *younger brother, took it: and he gave him* Achſah *his daughter to wife.*

## XCVIII.

### *Deborah* and *Barak*. *Jael* and *Siſera*.

FOR *Iſrael's* Sins fierce *Jabin* them ſubdues,
And baffled *Canaan's* deſp'rate Claim renews;
While *Sis'ra* his victorious Char'ots leads,
And Slaughter all around, and Ruin ſpreads:
Lopp'd Arms, and bleeding Heads lie ſtrow'd beneath
His Murd'ring Scythes, too hard for Time or Death:
His fiery Courſers trampling o'er the Plain,
Their brazen Hoofs daſh round a ſanguine Rain.
Degen'rate *Iſr'el* Sons embrace their Chain,
Their very Souls enſlav'd--- But heav'n can find
In female Breaſts a more than manly Mind:
The Sex that boaſt themſelves for Empire made,
Had dropp'd the Sword, the Sov'reign Pow'r betray'd:
Undaunted *Deborah* reclaims their Right,
And with *Abin'am's* Son deſcends to fight:
The Heathen hear, their dreadful Chariots arm,
And on the Banks of ancient *Kiſhon* ſwarm;
Cluſt'ring above, an Iron-Wall, they ſtood,
Breaſt-high, God's Army marches o're the Flood:
They caſt their Darts, they mount, they joyn, they beat,
And *Sis'ra* bears the News of his Defeat:
Inglorious Chief! himſelf the News did bring,
He ſav'd his precious Life for *Canaan's* King.
---How ſhort the Life which he in vain did ſave?
How ſoon the fatal Stroke a Woman gave?
Sleeping he dies, unknowing yields his Breath,
Now firſt couragious ſeems, for now he ſmiles on Death.

# XCVIII.

## JUDGES, Chap. IV. Ver. 1. to 22.

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Ver. 21. Jael Heber's *wife took a nail of the tent, and took a hammer in her hand, and went ſoftly unto him, and ſmote the nail into his temples, and faſtned it into the ground: (for he was faſt aſleep and weary) ſo he died.*

22. *And behold, as* Barak *purſued* Siſera, Jael *came out to meet him, and ſaid unto him, Come, and I will ſhew thee the man whom thou ſeekeſt. And when he came into her tent, behold,* Siſera *lay dead, and the nail was in his temples.*

## XCIX.

## JUDGES, Chap. V. from Ver. 2. to the End.

### *The Song of* Deborah *and* Barak.

WHen God his choſen Flock with Conqueſt bleſs'd,
The pious *Deb'rah* thus his Praiſe expreſs'd:

Let *Iſrael* their Avenger's Glory raiſe,
In lofty Notes of everlaſting Praiſe!
Hear, O ye Kings! attentive Princes hear,
A wond'rous Song that well deſerves your Ear!
When *Iſrael*'s God from hoſtile *Edom* came,
With his own Thunder arm'd, array'd in Flame;
Trembled the Earth, as o're the Clouds he rode,
The Cloud's diſſolve to Rain, and own the incumbent God.
The Mountains Tops at his approach retire,
Their molten Entrails run in ſtreams of Fire.

O, how unlike, thoſe novel Gods, and vain
Weak unavailing Names! no help they yield,
War, War the Gates reſound, and War the Field!
Th' alarm in vain is giv'n, of Spear and Shield.
By their inſulting jealous Lords bereft,
No refuge but inglorious Flight was left:
When *Deborah* aroſe at Heav'ns Command,
When I aroſe to ſave the Orphan'd Land:
Bleſs'd be their Names, the gen'rous Few, that join'd
To urge the happy Change by Heav'n deſign'd!

By

By Counſel or by Action, Pen or Sword,
To ſave their Country, and to help the Lord:
But curſe ye *Meroz*! an uncommon weight
Of Vengeance ſeize 'em, and a Neuter's Fate!
They wou'd the Spoil, tho' not the Danger, ſhare,
When *Siſera* is ſaln, they'll now declare.
---His Boaſts, his fruitleſs Hopes, his Fears are o're;
He bow'd, he fell, he ſunk, to riſe no more.
So let thy Foes, O God! to Duſt deſcend,
But thoſe that love thee, brighter Stars attend!
The Sun himſelf leſs glorious far than they,
The Sun, when mounted on the blazing Noon of Day.

## C.

### Gideon's *Expoſtulation. The Miracle of the Fleece.*

FOrgetful *Iſrael* ſoon agen offends,
And ſoon their angry God his Judgments ſends:
O're all the Land wild *Midian*'s Offspring pours,
An Epidemic Plague, like Locuſts, all devours:
To Caves and Dens th' affrighted *Hebrews* run,
Entomb themſelves alive their Death to ſhun:
Nor long unmov'd the Father at their Cries,
At his Command an Angel cleaves the Skies;
Beneath a ſpatious Oak at *Ophrah* ſtays,
And to the thoughtful *Gideon* thus he ſays:
---Brave Man! ſecure of Fate, and Aid divine!
No Danger canſt thou fear, for God is thine.

He thus--- If God be ours, as once we thought,
Where are thoſe Wonders he in *Egypt* wrought?
Are all our *Moſes*'s, all our *Joſhua*'s gone,
Our *Othniel*'s, and our *Ehud*'s? Are there none
To Heir their Virtues, that we ſtill muſt bear
The Heathens Yoke, and of Relief deſpair?
---Yes--- one there is, ſays God, and thou art he:
Go then, in this thy Might, thy Country free!
With Reformation he the Wars begins,
He knew their ſtrongeſt Foes were *Iſrael*'s Sins:
*Baal*'s helpleſs Altar to the Ground he throws,
And fells the Grove which near his Altar grows:
Inſpir'd, the Trumpet takes, and blew a Blaſt,
Which firſt thro' *Ophrah*'s narrow Confines paſs'd:
It paſs'd thro' *Abiezer*'s utmoſt bound;
Glad *Iſrael* hears, and gathers to the Sound:
From double-trib'd *Manaſſeh* thouſands run,
From diſtant *Aſher*, and from *Zebulun*.
When *Gideon* thus did *Iſrael*'s God addreſs,
And humbly asks an Omen of Succeſs.
If one ſo mean thy People muſt defend,
O let the Dew on my ſole Fleece deſcend!
'Tis done--- the Graſs and Floor around are dry;
Agen the Hero, Heav'n preſumes to try:
Upon his Fleece no drop of moiſture found,
While Sheets of Silver Dew ſpread all the ambient Ground.

# C.

## JUDGES, Chap. VI. Ver. 36. to the End.

183



Ver. 36. Gideon *ſaid unto God, If thou wilt ſave* Iſrael *by mine hand, as thou haſt ſaid,*

37. *Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor: and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beſide, then ſhall I know that thou wilt ſave* Iſrael *by mine hand, as thou haſt ſaid.*

38. *And it was ſo: for he roſe up early on the morrow, and thruſt the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl-ful of water.*

## CI.

## Midian *diſcomfited.*

*Gideon* reviews his Hoſt on *Harod*'s Plain,
Too num'rous yet the Victory to gain:
Three *Myriads* who at firſt the Hero joyn'd
Melt off, Three hundred only left behind:
By theſe, ſaid God, too few their Strength to boaſt,
Will I diſcomfit *Midian*'s num'rous Hoſt:
This Night go down, in *Moreh*'s Vale they lie,
And welcom Omens meet of Victory!
He goes, his faithful *Phurah* by his ſide,
They find their careleſs Army ſcatter'd wide;
They hear a Soldier no vain Dream relate
Of *Iſrael*'s Conqueſt, and of *Midian*'s Fate:
From thence return'd ſecure of wiſh'd Succeſs,
The joyful News by Looks and Words expreſs.
*Gideon* his Army, (ſcarce an Army) heads,
And not to Battel, but to Conqueſt leads: (Word
Around the ſlumb'ring Camps they ſhout; The
Was *Gideon*'s and *Jehovah*'s vengeful Sword!
Horror and Guilt the Paynim Hoſt affright,
Dread ſounds their Ears, their Eyes a ghaſtly Light:
They ran, they cry'd, they fled; their Swords they drew,
And each did in his Fellows's Blood imbrew;
*Manaſſeh*, *Aſher*, *Nepthali* purſue:
Fierce *Ephraim* ſeiz'd the Foords of *Jordan*'s Flood,
And dy'd his Streams with *Midianitiſh* Blood:
*Oreb* and *Zeeb* in their Flight they meet,
Their bleeding Heads they bring, and caſt at *Gideon*'s Feet.

CI.

# CI.

## JUDGES, Chap. VII. Ver. 5. to the End.

185



Ver. 5, 6. ---*The Lord ſaid unto* Gideon, *Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him ſhalt thou ſet by himſelf; and the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men.*

7. *And the Lord ſaid, By the three hundred men that lapped will I ſave you, and deliver the* Midianites *into thine hand.*

22, 23. ---*The Lord ſet every man's ſword againſt his fellow, even throughout all his hoſt, and the hoſt fled: and the men of* Iſrael *purſued the* Midianites.

CII.

## CII.

## JUDGES, Chap. IX.

### Abimelech *made King, and* Shechem *destroy'd.*

UNworthy to supply Great *Gideon's* Place,
*Abimelech* arose of spurious Race:
Without Remorse his seventy Brethren slain,
He thought a Crown he still did cheaply gain:
To *Shechem* he his ill-got Empire ows,
Ally'd by Birth, yet they his secret Foes:
In narrow Passes they an Ambush lay,
And hope *Abimelech* himself their Prey;
Their plenteous Vintage home, well-warm'd they bring,
And by their Idol-Gods they curse their Idol-King:
Nor this cou'd *Gideon's Blood*, tho' *base* endure;
To crush his Rebels, and his Friends secure
He with a potent Army takes the Field,
To whose superior Force the double Traytors yield:
The Victor to the City them pursues,
Th' unwieldy Gates are clos'd, the War renews:
The wrathful King, impetuous, presses on,
Their ill-defended Gates and Walls are gone:
The Foe breaks in like an impetuous Flood,
Which tops the Banks that long its Course with-stood,
The City's sow'd with Salt, and moisten'd with their Blood.

One

One Tow'r alone impregnable remain'd,
And Treaty they alike and Force diſdain'd:
They truſt their God, the Hold was nam'd from *Baal*,
But more they truſt their firm and lofty Wall:
The Victor thinks the reſt in vain was won,
Till Art compleats what Valour had begun:
Above the Town an hoary Mountain ſtood,
Whoſe venerable Head was crown'd with Wood:
The Firs and Pines thick Branches thence they rend,
And to the Tow'r, a moving Grove deſcend:
Theſe to the Gates apply'd th' Aſſailants fire,
In vain within they from the Gates retire:
At once their diſmal Shrieks aſcend the Skies,
Their dying, and their Fun'ral Flames ariſe,
Never had *Baal* before ſo large a Sacrifice.

## CIII.

### Abimelech *ſlain by a Woman.*

VIrtue alone can deathleſs Laurels boaſt;
She gains the Day when Life itſelf is loſt:
What with'ring Joys deceitful Conqueſt yields,
From Cities ſack'd, and from triumphant Fields!
How ſoon the giddy Globe of Fortune turns,
The Captive ſmiles, th' inſulting Victor mourns!
This, Great *Abimelech!* from thee we learn,
(And future Warriors may their Fate diſcern:)
Now happy, if thou bear thy Enſign's back,
Nor *Thebez* Walls, with Stars averſe, attack:

Fate

Fate draws thee on, and beckons from afar,
And Death, diſguis'd like Glory, leads to War:
The Town is ſtorm'd, the weak Defendants fled,
But in the Citadel again make Head;
Arm'd with Deſpair a brave Reſiſtance make;
Again their well-known Fire th' Aſſailants take;
Tho' lately try'd, of wiſh'd Succeſs it fails;
One Stratagem but rarely twice prevails:
Greedy of Fame, impatient of Delay,
To his warm Troops the Gen'ral leads the way;
Whom, at the Gates, to his deſpairing Foes,
His lofty Plume and glitt'ring Arms diſcloſe:
---'Tis done, and from a Mill-ſtone's deadly weight,
A Woman, a weak Woman ſends his Fate:
He feels the Stroke the Seat of Life confound,
His Helmet cruſh'd, his Head a ſingle Wound;
Groaning he falls, reluctant ſtrikes the Ground:
But his ſtrong Heart ſtill riſes with Diſdain,
" Can *Gideon*'s Son by Female Hands be ſlain?
" Let ſome kind Sword the Stroke of Mercy lend,
" If near me either Enemy or Friend!
His faithful Squire, who oft in Battel try'd,
Had ne're unguarded left his Maſter's ſide,
This laſt kind cruel Office not deny'd:
Soon as the Sword its fatal Paſſage found,
He riſes to the Point, and meets the welcom Wound.

CIII.

## CIII.

## JUDGES, Chap. IX. Ver. 50. to 55.

180



Ver. 51. *There was a ſtrong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and ſhut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower.*

53. *And a certain woman caſt a piece of a mil-ſtone upon* Abimelech's *head, and all to brake his head.*

54. *Then he called haſtily unto the young man his armour-bearer, and ſaid unto him, Draw thy ſword and ſlay me, that men ſay not of me, A woman ſlew him. And his young man thruſt him through, and he died.*

CIV.

## CIV.

### JUDGES, Chap. X. Ver. 17, 18. Chap. XI. to 29.

### Jephthah *choſen Captain by the* Gileadites.

*Ammon*'s inceſtuous Offspring now prevail,
From *Rabbah*'s Tow'rs they *Gibeah*'s Walls aſſail:
At *Mizpeh*'s neighb'ring Hills the Tribes unite,
Preſſing Memorials their Diſtreſs recite,
And valiant *Jephthah* to their Aid invite.
From foreign Lands their loud Complaints he hears,
And ſpeeds away to diſſipate their Fears;
Their high Eſtates in full Convention joyn'd,
To him the vacant Soveraign Pow'r aſſign'd:
He knew 'twas an *unthankful Work* to ſave,
He knew the *Wealthy* never lov'd the *Brave*;
And, *Ammon* beat, might civilly deſire,
He'd eaſe the Nation, and to *Tob* retire.
Revolving deep he poiz'd the Crown, before
His thoughtful Brows that thorny Trifle wore;
For publick Good at length accepts the Weight,
For others Freedom he a Slave of State.
In their new Head ſecure they promiſe fair,
And to their *rightful Saviour* Homage ſwear,
And *Jephthah* does for their Defence prepare:
By Treaty firſt does friendly Terms propound,
But ne're was *Ammon* yet by Treaty bound;
For where no *Faith* is, how ſhou'd *Truth* be found?

And

And now the ſacred Sp'rit invades his Breaſt,
And all the God his mighty Soul poſſeſt:
Like Lightning thro' the Clouds he darts away,
And only wou'd a while at *Mizpeh* ſtay,
The Gen'ral thought it no Diſgrace to pray.
New Strength receiv'd, ſecure of Conqueſts, goes
At once to find, engage and rout his Foes.

Go on, Great Prince! may Glory and Renown
Attend thy Banner, and thy Temple crown!
Thy conqu'ring Sword inſulting *Ammon*'s Rod,
Their *Chemoſh* forc'd to yield to *Iſrael*'s God!
---"But, ah! in vain thy Brows with Laurel
" crown'd,
"For Fate and gloomy Death encompaſs thee a-
" round.

## CV.

### Ammon *diſcomfited.* Jephtha's *Vow.*

FIerce *Ammon*'s num'rous Van appears in ſight,
Glad *Iſrael* roſe and ſhouted for the Fight:
Between both Armies valiant *Jephthah* ran,
His Spear to Heav'n he rais'd, and thus began;

"So may my Arms the God of Battles bleſs,
"And grant his own lov'd *Iſrael* wiſh'd Succeſs;
"As when from War with Conqueſt I return,
"What e're I meet, a Sacrifice ſhall burn.

The ſpatious Plain now grows a narrow Line,
The loſt Forlorns engage, the Battles joyn:

Heaps

Heaps upon Heaps accurſed *Ammon*'s ſlain,
But freſh Reſerves the tott'ring Fight ſuſtain:
Till *Jephtha*'s Guards, their General at their Head,
Charg'd their unwieldy Groſs, which bent and fled:
Their Main diſpers'd, the Wings no longer ſtood,
The reſt was Carnage all, a Field of Blood.
But, ah! how ſhort are wretched Mortals Joys!
This Moment gives 'em, and the next deſtroys:
How dear muſt what he wins, brave *Jephtha* coſt?
How oft he'll rather wiſh his Life he had loſt?
Swift Fame did his deſir'd Return prevent,
And with her Silver Trump before him went:
An only Daughter Heav'n the Hero lent,
A lov'd, an only Child, as chaſt as fair,
She did her Father's Soul and Virtues ſhare:
Her Country's Love and Duty made her fly
To Joy him of his mournful Victory:
---He ſaw the Maid, and like a Statue ſtood,
Pale was his alter'd Face, congeal'd his Blood:
" ---My Daughter! --longer mine, alas! no more!
" Thy cruel Duty we muſt both deplore:
" Th' irrevocable Word to God is paſt,
" Thou now art his, this Day muſt be thy laſt!
Thus he; unmov'd and calm her Doom ſhe hears,
Her charming Eyes alone are free from Tears:
When *Iſrael*'s ſafe, her Death ſhe ſcorns to grieve,
And only asks, ſubmiſs, a ſhort Reprieve:
Sadly he grants, two wexing Moons ſhe ſtay'd,
Then his hard Vow's fulfill'd on the devoted Maid.

# CV.

## JUDGES, Chap. XI. from Ver. 30. to Ver. 39.



V. 32. Jephtha *paſs'd over to fight againſt the children of* Ammon, *and the Lord delivered them into his hands.*

34. *And when he came to his houſe, behold his daughter came out to meet him.*

35. *And when he ſaw her, he rent his clothes, and ſaid, alas, my daughter! for I have opened my mouth unto the Lord, and I cannot go back.*

## CVI.

### *An Angel appears to* Manoah *and his Wife, and promiſes them a Son.*

ISRAEL again by Sin themſelves debaſe,
Enſlav'd to faithleſs *Capthor*'s fore-skin'd Race:
To *Zorah*'s Fields a heav'nly Watcher came,
(His dazling Robes laid by, and Wings of Flame;)
Where liv'd a happy Pair with Plenty bleſs'd,
And only want a Son to crown the reſt.
The Angel did the pleaſing Tidings bear,
And to the Wife fore-told a joyful Heir:
A *Nazarite* of God; the tempting Wine,
To him in vain thro' Cryſtal Walls ſhou'd ſhine:
No Razor muſt his ſacred Locks profane,
His Hands muſt looſe his injur'd Nation's Chain.
She haſtens home to bring her Lord the News,
So great, he did almoſt his Faith refuſe:
Agen the wondrous Meſſenger appears,
And all confirm'd attentive *Manoah* hears;
Who on the Rock an Holocauſt prepares
To *Iſrael*'s God, and joyns his fervent Pray'rs:
The Angel his celeſtial Robe reſumes,
His Sun-like Face, and gay Cherubic Plumes:
Behold his alter'd God like Preſence ſhine,
His large extended Form confeſs'd Divine!
High on a fiery Column's wondrous Car,
To Heav'n he mounts, ſwift as a ſhooting Star:
Proſtrate on Earth the trembling Pair are laid,
When *Manoah* ſilence broke, and thus he ſaid:

This

# CVI.

## JUDGES, Chap. XIII. Ver. 2. to 23.

195



Ver. 19. Manoah *took a kid, with a meat-offering, and offered it upon a rock to the Lord.*

20. *And when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, the angel of the Lord aſcended in the flame of the altar:* and Manoah *and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.*

21. (*But the angel of the Lord did no more appear to* Manoah *and to his wife*, &c.)

22. *And* Manoah *ſaid to his wife, We ſhall ſurely die, becauſe we have ſeen God.*

23. *But his wife ſaid unto him, If the Lord*, &c.

This dreadful Scene we ſhall not long ſurvive,
For who can ſee the Face of God and live?
With fairer Hopes his Conſort thus rejoyn'd,
If God diſpleas'd our ſpeedy Deaths deſign'd;
Why ſhou'd the Angel with ſuch Care adviſe,
And why ſhou'd Heav'n accept our Sacrifice?
Her, no vain Omens found their wiſh'd Event,
For e're ten waning Moons their Orbs had ſpent,
The Angel's Words perform'd, a wondrous Heir is ſent.

## CVII.

### Samſon *ſlays a Lion*, &c.

YOung *Samſon* grew, and Heav'n the Hero bleſs'd,
And ſoon the ſacred Spirit invades his Breaſt;
Near *Eſhtaol* and *Zorah*'s fruitful Plain,
His lab'ring Breaſt cou'd ſcarce the God ſuſtain.
Prompted to mighty Deeds the more than Man,
Afflicted *Iſrael*'s Freedom thus began.
A fair *Philiſtian* Maid at *Timnah* ſpy'd,
He wiſh'd the charming Infidel his Pride,
So Heav'n itſelf directs him, which fore-knows,
He'll hence Occaſion gain againſt his Foes:
His Parents, ignorant of Fates intent,
Unwillingly to *Timnah* with him went:
The aged Couple thro' the Vineyards walk,
And of their Son's unhappy Choice they talk;
*Samſon* behind; when from the ſecret Shades
A Lion ramps, and him unarm'd invades:

Nor

# CVII.

## JUDGES, Chap. XIV. to Ver. 8.

197



Ver. 5. Samſon *went down, and his father and mother to* Timnah, *and came to the vineyards of* Timnah: *and behold a young lion roared againſt him.*

6. *And the ſpirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and he had nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.*

7. *And he went down and talked with the woman, and ſhe pleaſed* Samſon *well.*

8. *And after a time, he returned to her, and he turned aſide to ſee the carcaſs of the lion,* &c.

Nor Sword nor Spear th' undaunted Champion needs,
The ſacred Spirit, earneſt of mightier Deeds,
Seizes him all; the rugged Foe he joyn'd,
Cruſh'd his broad Breaſt, and his ſtrong Neck he twin'd:
Onward he walks, the careful Pair o'retakes,
But of his great Exploit no mention makes:
The lovely *Timnite* ſaw, who charm'd him more,
Than when her Eyes had ſeiz'd his Heart before:
Scarce cou'd his Parents longer diſapprove
His Paſſion, where they ſaw ſuch Cauſe of Love:
Their Wealth, his Merits, cou'd not be deny'd,
Nor long his Faith and Conſtancy were try'd,
He ſoon returns with Joy to wed his beauteous Bride.

## CVIII.

### JUDGES, Chap. XIV. Ver. 7. to the End.

### Samſon's *Riddle.*

AS thro' the Vineyards *Samſon* takes his way,
Near where the Lions putrid Carcaſs lay;
He hears ſurpriz'd, from thence a murm'ring Sound,
He ſees live Honey flowing on the Ground:
The dropping Combs he from their Manſion tears,
Walks eating on, and with his Parents ſhares:

With

With all the Joy and Pomp that fits their State,
At *Timnah* they his Nuptials celebrate:
Th' Ill meaning Politician Lords combine,
T' entrap their gen'rous Gueſt, their baſe Deſign:
To mark his Actions they, in Friends diſguiſe,
His feſtal Table crowd with thirty Spies:
Nor had his wond'rous Birth eſcap'd their Ears,
Nor ever yet were Tyrants void of Fears:
Open and brave young *Sampſon* all receives,
As he no Ill deſigns, no Ill believes:
At length the Feaſt he crowns with gen'rous Wine,
From *Gaza's* and *Sarepta's* noble Vine;
But with the cryſtal Nymph his Thirſt allays,
Nor needs the fuming Grape his Spirits to raiſe:
E're from the Board the chearful Gueſts aroſe,
This Riddle *Samſon* did to all propoſe;
" The Eater did on others Meat beſtow,
" And from the ſtrong did wond'rous Sweetneſs
" flow:
If they the knotty Riddle cou'd explain,
Each for his ſhare ſhou'd a rich Veſtment gain.
They turn'd it off, and try'd, but try'd in vain:
At length they with his facil Spouſe confer,
She wrung it from her Lord, and they from her:
Enrag'd he heard it ſolv'd, her Treaſon knew,
And Thirty of th' abhorr'd *Philiſtians* ſlew:
Near *Aſhkalon's* proud Walls their Spoils he takes,
And to their faithleſs Friends th' ill-omen'd Preſent makes.

## CIX.

### Samſon's *Foxes. He kills a Thouſand Men with the Jaw-bone of an Aſs.*

QUarrels of Lovers ſeldom long endure,
And Time's a Leach that deepeſt Wounds can cure:
All *Breaches* he, but that of *Faith* can bind;
No Salve, no Herbs, no Charms for this can find,
If falſly heal'd, he leaves the pois'nous Head behind.
*Samſon*, appeas'd, does with a Kid prepare,
Agen to ſee his falſe *Philiſtian* Fair;
Now *his* no more, another's Wife ſhe's made,
And to his treach'rous Friend with Eaſe betray'd:
Nor this Great *Samſon* unreveng'd cou'd bear,
*Philiſtia*, tremble! you, th' Aggreſſors were!
Foxes and Fire-brands thro' their Harveſt turn'd,
Their Shocks at once, and ſtanding Corn he burn'd.
(To Mimic *Rome* the late Tradition came,
Their ſhouting Cirque each Year beheld the ſame.)
The Cauſe around their waſted Country known,
Their Rage is on the perjur'd *Timnite* ſhown:
To vengeful Flames they the fair Trait'reſs doom,
And her, and all her Father's Houſe conſume.
And now to *Etham*'s Rock the *Danite* went,
The Lordly *Philiſtines* their Army ſent:
And from their ſlaviſh Vaſſals him demand,
Of *Judah*'s Sons a baſe inglorious Band
Unto their Camps the willing Captive bear,
At whoſe approach with Shouts they rend the Air.

The

The Hero hears, his fiery Virtue wakes,
And from his Hands the Cords like Threads he ſhakes,
An Aſſes Jaw his boney Sword he takes:
Behold him dealing dole amongſt his Foes!
Terror before, behind him Slaughter goes,
From Heaps to Heaps of Carcaſſes they ſtride,
Which Streams of warm and reeking Blood divide,
And haughty Death ſits crown'd upon the crimſon Tide.

## JUDGES, Chap. XV. from Ver. 3. to Ver. 15.

Ver. 4. Samſon *went and caught three hundred foxes, and took fire-brands, and turned tail to tail, and put a fire-brand in the midſt between two tails.*

5. *And when he had ſet the brands on fire, he let them go into the ſtanding corn of the* Philiſtines, *and burnt up both the ſhock and alſo the ſtanding-corn, with the vineyards and olives.*

15. *And he found a new jaw-bone of an aſs, and put forth his hand and took it, and ſlew a thouſand men therewith.*

## CX.

### *Delilah* betrays *Samſon.*

HOW vainly Men their Strength and Conduct boaſt?
By Female Wiles, how often trapp'd and loſt?
----We rave, but ſtill they wind us back again,
In Deſtinies or Follies endleſs Chain:
But newly ſcap'd the beauteous *Timnite*'s ſnare,
Nor yet cou'd *Samſon* of her Sex beware:
He ſaw in *Sorek*'s pleaſant Vale retir'd,
Falſe *Delilah*, he ſaw her and admir'd:
In lazy Luxury his Hours he paſt,
His matchleſs Might, and uſeleſs Life ran waſt:
*Philiſtia* heard with falſe miſtaken Joy,
And rouz'd that Virtue muſt themſelves deſtroy:
Happy for *them* if ſtill he there had ſtay'd!
To worſe than *Delilah* he ne're cou'd be betray'd.
Yet her they bring vaſt Sums of tempting Gold,
What Kings, what Senates have for leſs been ſold?
'Twas *hers*, if ſhe his Counſels wou'd betray,
And ſhew wherein his Strength and *Iſrael*'s lay:
Long he eludes her Arts, tho' hourly preſs'd,
And lock'd the fatal Secret in his Breaſt:
She frowns, ſhe ſmiles, ſhe all the Woman tries,
In vain, he ſtill evades, or ſtill denies:
The ſpecious *Syren* baits his paſſive Ears,
Nor want ſoft ſighs, or well-commanded Tears:
" Was't this, was't this, falſe Man! you did deſign,
" When at my Feet you vow'd your Heart was
" mine?

" How

# CX.

## JUDGES, Chap. XVI. Ver. 4. to 20.



Ver. 19. Delilah *made him ſleep upon her knees, and ſhe called for a man, and ſhe cauſed him to ſhave off the ſeven locks of his head, and ſhe began to afflict him, and his ſtrength went from him.*

20. *And ſhe ſaid,* The Philiſtines *be upon thee,* Samſon. *And he awoke out of his ſleep, and ſaid, I will go out as at other times before, and ſhake my ſelf. And he wiſt not that the Lord was departed from him.*

" How

" How eaſie to my Ruin I believe?
" How ſoon the Viper to my Breaſt receiv'd?
" May every Maid your faithleſs Nation ſhun,
" And learn by me, forſaken, ſcorn'd, undone!
—He cou'd no more, his ſtubborn Heart gave way;
Doubly betray'd, he does himſelf betray:
Like eaſie Man the fatal Secret tells,
Which like true Woman *Delilah* reveals:
Robb'd of his ſacred Locks, amidſt his Foes
Th' inſulting Traitreſs did her Lord expoſe:
In vain he rouz'd, in vain his Limbs he ſhakes,
And ſelf-forſaken him his God forſakes:
Vanquiſh'd with Eaſe, a Captive, ſcorn'd and blind,
T' inglorious Pains, a publick Drudge confin'd,
Shorn of his boaſted Strength, and yet compell'd to grind.

## CXI.

### Samſon's *Death.*

HAppy Affliction, by whoſe welcom Rod
We learn at once to know ourſelves, and God!
*Samſon* by *this* the trueſt Freedom gains,
Smiles in his Dungeon, and enjoys his Chains;
And his purg'd Soul's endu'd with inward Light,
Which more than pays his Loſs of ſenſual ſight:
His haughty Lords leſs free than him they bind,
By their own Pride and Vice enſlav'd and blind;

Who

# CXI.

## JUDGES, Chap. XVI. from Ver. 23. to Ver. 30.



Ver. 23. *Then the lords of the* Philiſtines *gathered themſelves together for to offer a great ſacrifice unto* Dagon *their god*, &c.

29. Samſon *took hold of the two middle pillars, upon which the houſe ſtood*, &c.

30. *And* Samſon *ſaid, Let me die with the* Philiſtines: *and he bowed himſelf with all his might, and the houſe fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein: ſo the dead which he ſlew at his death, were mo than they which he ſlew in his life.*

Who

Who now a joyful Feaſt around proclaim,
To ſpread their mighty Fiſhes glorious Name;
Their two-form'd God, who to *Philiſtia* gave
*Samſon*, their once dread Foe, but now their Slave:
The Feaſt and Noon grew high, for *him* they ſend,
And at his ſight with Shouts the Heavens they rend:
His gifted Strength their Scorn, which late their Dread,
Thro' all their Streets in ſhameful Triumph led:
Their ſpatious Theatre was crowded round,
And with the Flow'r of wealthy *Gaza* crown'd:
The vaulted Roof two maſſy Columns bear,
*Samſon*, as tir'd, ſues to repoſe him there;
Betwixt whoſe Baſes by his Leader plac'd,
Straining his utmoſt nervous Force, he bends,
The Pillars from their firm Foundations rends,
With burſt of Thunder ſtrait the Roof deſcends,
Cruſhing at once the ſhrieking Crowd beneath,
At once confounded in one Grave and Death:
*Samſon* among the reſt contented fell,
And ſmiles to think his Eyes reveng'd ſo well.
Happy the Man who thus his Fame regains,
And by ſo fair a Death, can looſe his Country's Chains!

CXII

# CXII.

## JUDGES, Chap. XVII. Ver. 7. to Chap. XX. Ver. 46.

### *The War with* Benjamin.

UNbounded Rule! How num'rous is thy ſtore,
Of mortal Plagues? but Anarchies are more:
No Law, no Faith, no Wrongs in her redreſs'd
The Swords blind Chance of Right and Juſt the Teſt,
And every Man's a *Lewis* to the reſt.
Each ſtrolling *Levite* there a Prieſt will be,
Each Houſe muſt have its diff'rent Deity:
Nor thoſe ſecure, for *Micah*'s Art and Coſt,
His wooden Prieſt, and golden Gods are loſt:
Murder and Rape avow'd, the Tribes engage
In civil Fury, and inteſtine Rage:
At *Mizpeh* met, they *Gibeah*'s Walls aſſail,
Where *Benjamin*'s fierce Offspring twice prevail:
Stretch'd on their Mother Earth four Myriads lay,
Whence ev'n degen'rate *Iſrael* learns to pray:
To *Shiloh*'s ſlighted Oracle repair,
Near *Bethel*'s Fields the Ark of God was there,
And ſtill juſt *Phineas* did the Ephod wear:
They faſt, they mourn, and from the Altar's Fire
Their grateful Odors to the Clouds aſpire,
Then of propitious Heav'n agen enquire;
Which bids 'em go, and Promiſe adds to bleſs,
Their righteous Arms reſum'd with wiſh'd ſucceſs.

To

To *Gibeah*'s well-known Leaguer they return,
Whoſe alter'd Fate her Children ſoon muſt mourn:
Fluſh'd with ſucceſs they ſally from their Hold,
And as an Herd of Wolves aſſault the Fold;
With hideous Shouts they *Iſrael*'s Hoſt attack,
With well-diſſembled Fear retreating back:
But when to *Gibeah*'s Walls their Ambuſh came,
Defenceleſs now; when thence th' ambitious Flame
Glar'd in mid Heav'n, the Hoſt the Signal knew,
And their amaz'd Purſuers ſoon purſue,
Trod down with eaſe; their Tribe at once they ſlay:
---By Lewdneſs, thus and Diſcord, States decay,
Thus many an Age's Growth is ruin'd in a Day.

## CXIII.

## RUTH, Chap. I. Ver. 1. to 21.

### Elimelech's *Hiſtory.* Ruth *and* Naomi.

WHile various Judges *Iſrael*'s Scepter ſway'd,
Whoſe Sons were free by turns, by turns obey'd;
A good old Sire, *Elimelech* his Name,
To *Moab* from his native *Bethl'hem* came:
His Wife, and two fair Sons did with him bear,
By Famine forc'd to ſeek a ſhelter there:
Nor long he ſtays before to Fate he yields,
His Bones inhum'd in *Moab*'s friendly Fields:

The

The careful Mother for the Sons provides,
A pair of beauteous *Moabitiſh* Brides:
Nor long, alas! poſſeſs'd they their deſire,
Their Nuptial Torch might light their Fun'ral Fire,
In Prime of Youth they childleſs both expire:
What Grief their Parent, what their Brides poſſeſs'd,
The Story ſays not, but with eaſe 'tis gueſs'd:
Nor long the widow'd exil'd Mother mourn'd,
E're ſhe to bleſs'd *Judeas* Fields return'd;
Part of the Journey both her Daughters went,
*Orpah*, at her deſire, was ſoon content
To take her leave, and back her Footſteps bent:
The Younger, *Ruth*, (whoſe memorable Name,
In *Judah*'s future Annals place ſhall claim,
While Hiſtory remains, conſign'd to Fame;)
Her Mother's preſſing Inſtances deny'd,
Nor wou'd while Life remain'd, forſake her ſide,
Nor ev'n ſhou'd envious Death their Duſt divide:
In Weal or Wo her Fortunes preſs'd to ſhare,
One Law, one God for *Naomi* and her.
(A rare Example of a pious Mind!
Equal Succeſs may all ſuch Daughters find!)
Arriv'd at *Bethlehem*, all the City come
T' admire their Neighbor, and to welcom home:
They ſcarce can credit what themſelves they ſee,
And ask, if this the alter'd *Naomi*?
O call me by that happy Name no more,
She ſaid, which while my Fortunes ſmil'd, I bore!
Forgotten Joy long ſince is out of date,
And *Bitter* be my Name, as bitter is my Fate!

## CXIV.

### Ruth *gleans in the Field of* Boaz. *He takes her to Wife.*

'TWas now the time when *Sol* the *Lion* leaves,
And the *juſt Maid* her glorious Gueſt receives:
The ſwarthy Reapers fill their Arms with Sheaves.
As chanc'd, or rather Heav'n diſpos'd th' Event,
The virtuous *Ruth* with *Naomi*'s Conſent,
To glean the Fields of wealthy *Boaz* went;
Who ſoon obſerv'd her more than common Grace,
Her modeſt Air, and lovely virtuous Face:
Not unconcern'd he asks the Damſel's Name,
To whom his Hind replys—'Tis ſhe that came
With *Naomi*: His Maſter bids her ſtay,
Glean in his Fields, nor from the Reapers ſtray;
She from his Servants no abuſe ſhou'd meet:
Proſtrate ſhe falls at her great Kinſman's Feet:
Whence, Sir! is this obliging Goodneſs ſhown,
She ſaid, to me, a Stranger, and unknown?
We are not ignorant, he pleas'd, rejoyn'd,
What widow'd *Naomi* from thee did find;
How tender thou, how dutiful and kind:
Of Father and of Mother both, bereft,
Thy native Land, and Country-Idols left,
For Altars and for Hearths unknown before;
And may that Pow'r whom *Iſrael*'s Race adore,
Thee underneath his Wings from Danger guard,
And on thy Virtues ſhow'r a full Reward!

Now

# CXIV.

## RUTH, Chap. I. Ver. 22. Chap. II. Ver. 2. to the End. Chap. IV. Ver. 13.



Chap. II. Ver. 8. Boaz *ſaid unto* Ruth, *Heareſt thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here faſt by my maidens.*

9. *Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men, that they ſhall not touch thee? and when thou art athirſt, go unto the veſſels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn.*

Chap. IV. Ver. 13. Boaz *took* Ruth, *and ſhe was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the Lord gave her conception, and ſhe bare a ſon.*

Now ebbing Day almoſt its courſe had run,
And weſtern Waves prepar'd to meet the Sun;
When the fair Gleaner to her Mother goes,
And what had paſs'd, and what ſhe gain'd, ſhe ſhows,
And does her Benefactor's Name diſcloſe:
And when the Fields were of their Burthen ſhorn
And with loud Shouts and ruſtic Songs, the Corn
On groaning Wheels to crowded Garner's born;
Her wealthy Kinſman, ſo their Laws ordain'd,
In childleſs *Chilions* room ſhe for her Conſort gain'd.

## CXV.

### 1 SAMUEL, Chap. I. Ver. 11. Chap. II. Ver. 1. to 11.

### *Elkanah* and *Hannah*. *Samuel* born. *Hannah*'s Song.

JUſt *Elkanah* of holy *Levi*'s Race,
Whoſe Life did ne're his Character diſgrace;
The pious *Hannah* choſe his beautious Bride,
But Heav'n to both their Vows a Son deny'd:
To ſacred *Shiloh* yearly they repair,
To pay their Gifts and pure Oblations there:
She griev'd, ſhe wept, ſhe pour'd her pious Pray'r
Before the Oracle, nor pray'd in vain,
A welcom Heir her ardent Vows obtain:
*Samuel* his Name--- from Heav'n ſhe him implor'd,
And to the Pow'r that gave, agen reſtor'd:

A *Nazarite* of God did him design,
Eſtrang'd from fuming Bowls of tempting Wine:
No Razor muſt his hallow'd Locks invade,
Or the long Honours of his Hair degrade,
And guilty of her Vows, her Vows ſhe pay'd:
When wean'd to *Shiloh* brought and left him there,
Entruſted to the Rev'rend *Eli*'s care;
Then thus with well according Heart and Tongue,
She God's high Praiſe in deathleſs Numbers ſung.

'In God, my Saviour, O my Soul, rejoyce!
'Awake my vocal Lyre! awake my tuneful Voice!
'Thee, Holy! Holy! Holy! Thee alone,
'Officious Angels ſerve, around thy Throne.

'Inſult no more, ye hard of Heart and proud!
'Reſtrain your Tongues, nor talk ſo fierce and loud!
'For God's impartial Eye the World ſurveys,
'With equal Juſtice every Action weighs.
'The mighty Bows, which mighty Arms did wield,
'Unſtring'd and broke are ſcatter'd round the Field.
'O God of Strength, by thee the weak are rais'd,
'The Hungry fill'd, the Rich and Proud debas'd:
'The barren Womb a num'rous Offspring fills,
'Tis he that makes alive, 'tis he that kills:
'Tis his alone, or Poor or Rich to make,
'He from the Dunghil does the *Lazars* take.
'O Scorn of human Pride! with Princes ſeat,
'And ſtamp him honourable there, and great:
'Thoſe Pillars of the World are his alone,
'They prop the Univerſe, and he ſupports their
'Throne.
'To gloomy Shades th' Unjuſt ſhall be confin'd,
'His Foes ſhall God's fierce Wrath to pieces grind:

'While from his angry Throne th' unerring Darts,
'With Vengeance wing'd, ſhall pierce their faith-
'leſs Hearts.
'O're all the World ſhall he extend his ſway,
'And all the World his Great *Meſſiah*'s Laws obey.

## CXVI.

### Eli's *weak Government. A Prophet reproves him.*

OLD *Eli* now Great *Aaron*'s Ephod wears,
Scarce equal to his Honours and his Cares:
Contempt alone his eaſie Goodneſs gains,
While with too ſlack a Hand he holds the Reins.
Two Sons he had, now happy had he none!
Whoſe Crimes their Country's ruin, and their own.
Thoſe Sons of *Belial* wou'd not know the Lord,
They made his Off'rings, by the Crowd abhor'd,
Rapine and Luſt for Deities ador'd:
Yet when reprov'd by their indulgent Sire,
Softly he touch'd the Wound which did require
The deepeſt Search, the Lancet and the Fire.

Not ſo to him, a Man of God, who came,
And thus from injur'd Heav'n did War proclaim.
Did I thy Father's Houſe in *Egypt* chuſe?
Did I by them my Peoples Bondage looſe?
Did I for this the ſtronger Tribes refuſe?
And favour'd *Aaron* ſeparate alone,
To wear my Ephod and approach my Throne?

Nor

# CXVI.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. II. Ver. 12. to 33.



Ver. 27. *There came a man of God unto* Eli, *and ſaid unto him, Thus ſaith the Lord, Did I plainly appear unto the houſe of thy father, when they were in* Egypt *in* Pharaoh's *houſe?*

28. *And did I chuſe him out of all the tribes of* Iſrael *to be my prieſt, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incenſe, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the houſe of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of* Iſrael?

29. *Wherefore kick ye at my ſacrifice, and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation, and honoureſt thy ſons above me,* &c.

Nor this unpay'd--- with Sacrifices fed,
He ſhar'd my Table and he eat my Bread:
And will not theſe your greedy Wiſh ſuffice,
That ye my Off'ring, and my Houſe deſpiſe,
And trample on my daily Sacrifice?
I ſaid, thy Father's Houſe ſhou'd ſtill be mine,
'Tis you are chang'd, and from my Paths decline:
*Jehovah* ever was, and is the ſame,
He honours thoſe who honour his dread Name,
Whilſt all who him deſpiſe, ſtand manifeſt of Shame.
The Day, the dreadful Day approaches near,
When from thy Shoulder I thy Arm will tear:
Will wither all thy Houſes Pride and Joy,
And in their Flow'r of Life thy impious Sons deſtroy.

## CXVII.

### *The Lord calls* Samuel, *who propheſies the Deſtruction of* Eli's *Houſe.*

'TWas Night, and all in ſilent Slumbers laid,
The Lamp of God ſhone faintly thro' the Shade:
Old *Eli* his dim Eyes did newly cloſe,
Ev'n *Samuel* ſlept, indulging ſoft repoſe:
Nor had the Lord to *Samuel* yet appear'd,
But now a ſtill ſmall, awful Voice he heard,
His Name repeating--- he to *Eli* ran,
Who call'd him not, but bids him reſt again!
Thrice was the Voice repeated, thrice he roſe,
And thro' the ſolemn Shades to *Eli* goes;

At

# CXVII.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. III, Ver. 5. to 18.

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Ver. 11. *The Lord ſaid to* Samuel, *Behold, I will do a thing in* Iſrael, *at which both the ears of every one that heareth it, ſhall tingle.*

12. *In that day I will perform againſt* Eli *all things which I have ſpoken concerning his houſe: when I begin, I will alſo make an end.*

13. *For I have told him, that I will judge his houſe for ever, for the iniquity which he knoweth: becauſe his ſons made themſelves vile, and he reſtrained them not.*

14. *And therefore I have ſworn unto the houſe of* Eli, *that the iniquity of* Eli's *houſe ſhall not be purged with ſacrifice, nor offering for ever,* &c.

At length the aged Sire the Truth perceives,
And his young Pupil new Inſtructions gives:
It calls agen, the future Prophet fears,
And thus, ſubmiſs--- "Speak, Lord! thy Servant
"hears!
To whom diſtinct the awful Voice proceeds,
"Behold in *Iſrael* I will do ſuch Deeds;
"As all who hear ſhall with amazement quail,
"Their Ears ſhall tingle, and their Hearts ſhall fail.
"Let *Eli*'s loſt devoted Houſe prepare,
"For what my Servant did, inſpir'd, declare;
"Theirs in the Show'r of Wrath the largeſt
"ſhare.
"For ever will I them, for ever leave,
"And no Atonement for their Crimes receive:
"Their Crimes he knows, regardleſs to reſtrain,
"He bears my Image and my Sword in vain.

The Sun had ſpread the Hills with heav'nly
Gold,
When *Samuel* did the ſacred Gates unfold:
The Judge adjures him, nothing to conceal,
Who all the dreadful Meſſage did reveal:
He owns the Doom was juſt his Faults procur'd,
And God was good, whate're his Houſe endur'd.

May all who *Eli*'s Charge and Honours ſhare
His falſe Indulgence ſhun, as they'd his Fate
beware!

## CXVIII.

*The Ark taken.* Hophni *and* Phinehas *ſlain.* Eli's *Death.*

UNwilling to reſume the ſervile Yoke,
Of *Capthor*'s Sons, which valiant *Samſon* broke;
The Tribes of *Iſrael* arm without ſucceſs,
For how ſhou'd God a ſinful Nation bleſs?
Baffl'd and beat, four thouſand Warrior's ſlain,
Their Bones unbury'd lay on *Aphek*'s Plain.
With ſtronger Forces they renew the War,
God's Ark they to the Camp from *Shiloh* bear:
But what avails his Ark when God's not there?
Trembled the Plains, the hollow Mountains ring,
When to the Camp that ſacred Pledge they bring;
So loud a Shout the joyful Army gave,
Tho' neither *that* itſelf nor *them* cou'd ſave.
Their Enemy the Noiſe with wonder hear,
Which ſoon, th' Occaſion known, is chang'd to Fear:
Wo to our Nation--- thus alarm'd they cry'd,
Dangers like this, till now we never try'd:
Who, from theſe mighty Gods our Hoſt ſhall ſave,
Which plung'd th' *Egyptians* underneath the Wave?
*Philiſtia!* now exert thy utmoſt might!
The Conqueſt gain, or fall in manful Fight!
They joyn, and long the Battel doubtful ſtood,
The Fields with Warrior's ſtrew'd and dy'd in Blood:

*Iſrael*

*Israel* at last gave way, the Foe pursu'd,
But round the Ark agen the Fight renew'd:
*Hophni* the fainting Troops, and *Phinehas* chear,
And twice, when broke, they rally'd in the Rear;
(O! how cou'd Guilt like theirs, so brave appear?)
And might have turn'd the Fortune of the Day,
Had not their Sins their Laurels snatch'd away.
A third Effort with feebler Force they make,
But can't their sacred injur'd Charge retake:
Close by the Ark, oppress'd with odds they fell,
Happy their Deaths had they but liv'd as well!
Three Myriads more to Fate compell'd to yield,
Whose Limbs extended on the moisten'd Field:
A *Benjamite* escapes, Fear lends him Wings,
At close of Day the News to *Shiloh* brings:
The City gave an universal Groan,
Old *Eli* hears the Noise, the Cause unknown;
When thus the Messenger--- "The People fled,
"*Philistia* triumphs, both thy Sons are dead,
"And more than all--- the Ark is captive led.
He heard till then, till then he fill'd his Place,
But now the hasty Blood forsakes his Face:
Back to his Heart, thro' secret Channels flies,
Back from his Seat he falls, he backward falls,
and dies.

# CXVIII.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. IV. Ver. 10. to 19.

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Ver. 17. *The meſſenger ſaid,* Iſrael *is fled before the* Philiſtines, *and there hath been alſo a great ſlaughter among the people, and thy two ſons alſo,* Hophni *and* Phinehas *are dead, and the ark of God is taken.*

18. *And it came to paſs when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the ſeat backward, by the ſide of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died,* &c.

CXIX.

## CXIX.

### Ichabod's *Birth.* *His Mother's Death.*

THE ſhrieking Matrons with diſhevel'd Hair,
To th' empty Temple now in vain repair;
And, *Phinehas!* to thy widow'd Spouſe relate
That mournful Day's Tranſactions, big with Fate.
Ah, how unfit ſo vaſt a Weight to bear,
Preſs'd with her tender Sexes greateſt Care;
By her lov'd Lord a pregnant Widow left,
Of Father, Brother, Husband, all bereft!
Yet more, the loſs of more than all her Line,
The ſacred Symbol of the Pow'r Divine:
The Ark of God won by th' inſulting Foe;
'Twas this that gave the laſt, the greateſt Blow.
Hence, immature, her Pangs the Matron ſeize,
And haſten, firſt to Labor, then to Eaſe:
Preſſing for Life her Burthen longs to ſhare
A larger World, and taſte the lightſom Air:
Nor ſtruggled long, for ſoon her thickning throes
A lovely Babe to ready Birth diſcloſe:
In vain the Women his ſad Mother chear,
A Son is born, nor had ſhe more to fear:
Fix'd are her Eyes, and all her Actions ſhow
A ſteddy Grief, a ſolemn ſilent Wo:

Regard-

Regardleſs of herſelf, and all beſide,
Theſe only Words ſhe ſtrain'd before ſhe dy'd.

" ---Yes, my unhappy Offspring! yes, I'll live
" One moment more, thy mournful Name to give:
" Be *Ichabod* thy Name, and in it wear
" Thy Country's Fate which thou ſo ſoon muſt
" ſhare:
" The Ark is gone--- our Glory is declin'd,
" And who ſo fond of Life to wiſh to ſtay behind?

She ſaid, then to thoſe Regions wings away,
Where weary Souls enjoy ſoft Reſt, and endleſs Day.

---

## 1 Samuel, Chap. IV. from Ver. 19. to the End.

Ver. 21. ---*She named the child* Ichabod, *ſaying, The glory is departed from* Iſrael: *(becauſe the ark of God was taken, and becauſe of her father-in-law, and her husband,)*

22. *And ſhe ſaid, The glory is departed from* Iſrael: *for the ark of God is taken.*

# CXX.

## *The Ark and* Dagon. *The* Philistines *plagu'd, the Ark return'd.*

NOW *Palestina*'s conqu'ring Sons proclaim,
In festal Hymns their mighty Fishes name:
Their barb'rous Joy scarce louder Triumphs made,
When dreadful *Samson* to their Lords betray'd,
Tho' short are these as those; for now they bear
To *Dagon*'s Dome the Ark, and leave it there:
With *Dagon* now and God the Cáuse is try'd,
And which will win, 'tis easie to decide:
The Priests their Idol leave, whom they before
Glutted with od'rous Streams, and holy Gore:
Nor sooner gilds the Sun the *Cretan* shore,
When to their daily Task th' Impostors rise,
And haste to pay their morning Sacrifice:
But found their Monster-God more monstrous made,
Prostrate on Earth his helpless Trunk was laid,
As to the Ark he there his Homage paid.
His Hands and Head were sever'd from the rest,
His fishy Tail remain'd, and scaly Chest:
Nor this alone, their Idol thus subdu'd,
A shameful Plague his Worshippers pursu'd:
Affrighted *Ashdod* sends the Ark away,
Which next to *Gath*'s proud City they convey,
Till *Gath*'s great City plagu'd as much as they.
To *Ekron* last, but *Ekron* cries in vain,
Nor wou'd their sure Destruction entertain:

They

# CXX.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. V. Ver. 3, 4.

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Ver. 3. *When they of* Aſhdod *aroſe early on the morrow, behold,* Dagon *was fallen upon his face to the earth, before the ark of the Lord: and they took* Dagon, *and ſet him in his place again.*

4. *And when they aroſe early on the morrow morning, behold,* Dagon *was fallen upon his face to the ground, before the ark of the Lord: and the head of* Dagon, *and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threſhold, only the ſtump of* Dagon *was left to him.*

They ſhut their Gates, and from the Walls they cry,
The winged Plague did o're the Rampires fly,
TheStreets with Corpſes fill'd,and thouſands die:
Thro' every Houſe the dire Contagion ſpread,
The tortur'd Living envy ev'n the Dead.
The Lords of their five *Satrapies* adviſe,
With thoſe who were, or who were counted wiſe,
How to appeaſe the anger of the Skies:
Reſolv'd, the Ark with Preſents home they ſent,
To glad *Beſhemeſh* that, and they to *Ekron* went.

## CXXI.

### 1 Samuel, Chap. VII.

### *The* Philiſtines *diſcomfited.* Ebenezer.

With Tears unfeign'd afflicted *Iſrael* mourn,
To God at length, and to themſelves return:
Their former Sins and Follies now lament,
Obſequious to the Prophet's call, repent.
For *Samuel* with reſiſtleſs Eloquence,
Soft piercing Words, and more than manly Senſe,
Moulds 'em to Good, recalls 'em when they ſtray,
And guides direct in Virtues glorious way.
If they return to God with Hearts ſincere,
If they to keep his Laws, their Mind prepare;

If

If *Aſhtaroth* and *Baalim* they forſake,
And him alone their Rock and Saviour make;
He ſoon wou'd break *Philiſtia*'s ſervile Bands,
And ſave 'em from th' inſulting Heathens Hands.
With Hearts contrite they hear, with ready Will,
Exact Obedience promiſe and fulfil:
For all the Tribes to *Mizpeh Samuel* ſent,
They faſt, they pray, their num'rous Crimes lament:
*Philiſtia*'s Pow'r their Lords againſt them raiſe,
Tremble the People, and the Prophet prays:
A bleating Lamb upon the Altar lies,
And Heav'n accepts a ſpotleſs Sacrifice:
Th' uncircumcis'd the ſacred Hoſt aſſail,
Nor fear but *Dagon* will again prevail:
O harden'd to your Fate, who ſtill go on,
Their Strength is now return'd, and yours is gone!
Look up, and ſee your Death in yonder Sky!
The ruddy Bolts are in the Act to fly:
---'Tis paſs'd, they Fire and Thunder on their Head,
Behold the Field with groveling Warriors ſpred,
The living Shelter ſeek beneath the Dead!
*Iſrael* no more their Strength or Numbers fear,
But ſallying forth attack them in the Rear:
Their double Ruin they in vain wou'd ſhun,
The *Hebrews* perfect what juſt Heav'n begun.

The Fragment of a Rock the Prophet takes,
And thence a rugged antique Pillar makes;
Which in the Field of Battel rear'd, conveys
The memorable Fact to long ſucceeding Days.

## CXXII.

### Saul *seeking his Father's Asses, is anointed King by* Samuel.

FROM small Events what mighty things proceed?
Our Fates, tho' not our Crimes, by Heav'n decreed.
To *Reach* and *Fore-sight*, vainly we pretend,
How unproportion'd oft the Means and End?
On no high Deed, no strange Adventure bound,
Monsters to quell, or Tyrants to confound;
The Son of *Kish*, so did wise Heav'n dispose,
To seek his Father's Asses humbly goes;
But onward drawn by a strong secret Chain,
Fulfils his Fate and does the Kingdom gain:
One faithful Servant joyns him in the Quest,
Who still a ready Will to please exprest:
Thro' *Ephraim*'s woody Mount they search in vain,
Thro' *Shalim*'s Coast, and rich *Shalisha*'s Plain;
Thro' *Benjamin*'s yet thinly peopled Ground,
Whose Tribe still halted of so deep a Wound:
Now *Zophim*'s hanging Rocks before 'em spy,
And pleasant *Ramah* tow'ring in the Sky.
The Master here proposes to return,
Left for their Loss his careful Father mourn:
Pious and Wise the Servants thus reply'd,
There's one Expedient yet remains untry'd:

# CXXII.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. IX. from Ver. 3. to the End. Chap. X. Ver. 1. to Ver. 17.



Chap. IX. Ver. 3. *The aſſes of* Kiſh, Saul's *father were loſt; and* Kiſh *ſaid to* Saul *his ſon, Take now one of the ſervants with thee and ariſe, go ſeek the aſſes.*----

27. *And as they were going down to the end of the city,* Samuel *ſaid to* Saul, *Bid the ſervant paſs on before us, (and he paſſed on) but ſtand thou ſtill a while, that I may ſhew thee the word of God.*

Chap. X. Ver. 1. *Then* Samuel *took a vial of oyl, and poured it upon his head, and kiſſed him, and ſaid, Is it not becauſe the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?* &c.

A Man of God does in this City dwell,
Who paſs'd, and preſent knows, and future things can tell:
Thither let's turn aſide, the Place is near,
He'll ſoon direct what Courſe is beſt to ſteer:
The motion pleas'd, with painful Steps they climb
The rocky Path, and reach the Hill ſublime;
Whoſe Cliff ſurmounted they a while reſpire,
And of the *Seer* himſelf, they for himſelf enquire:
Nor was their Journey, or its Cauſe unknown,
For God, before, had all to *Samuel* ſhown:
He knew that Day, that happy Hour ſhou'd bring
*Iſrael*'s Deſire, and fated future King:
Diſmiſs, ſaid he, your Care, and reſt you here:
For what you ſeek diſmiſs your groundleſs Fear.
Safe and return'd--- Be you my Gueſts to day,
To morrow you I'll ſend in Peace away.
The Strangers feaſted, there that Night repoſe,
And early with the dawning Morn aroſe,
Then leave the Town, the Prophet with 'em goes:
Behold him on the wond'ring Hero, ſhed
A ſhow'r of myſtic Oyl, and thus he ſaid.
" The Lord does thee with this high Honour " grace,
" Appointed Captain o're his choſen Race:
" Another Spirit ſhall ſoon thy Breaſt invade,
" And mighty Signs ſhall thee to mighty Deeds " perſuade.

# CXXIII.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. X. from Ver. 17. to the End.

### Saul's *Election.*

To *Mizpeh*'s Hills th' expecting Tribes repair
By *Samuel* call'd, to fix the grand Affair,
And thus the Rev'rend Sire accoſts them there.

Thus ſaith the Lord-- I you from *Egypt* brought,
Againſt your Foes my ſelf from Heav'n have fought:
By Miracles protected when oppreſs'd,
And now on ev'ry ſide have giv'n you reſt:
But what returns? Weary of Peace and me,
Your Tribes abjure divine Theocracy.
Enjoy your Wiſh, what e're th' Event it bring!
Approach, and Heav'n will ſoon declare your King.
They came, the great deciſive Lot is caſt,
The ſtronger and more num'rous Tribes it paſt,
And on exhauſted *Benjamin* did fall;
" Forth leapt the Houſe of *Kiſh*, and forth leapt
" *Saul*.
Diſtinct above the vulgar Crowd he ſtood,
Like ſome fair Pine the Monarch of the Wood.

Black as the Raven's gloſſy Plumes his Hair,
Which fell adown his Shoulders with looſe Care:
A modeſt Fire his Sun-bright Eyes did grace,
Diffuſing a calm Luſtre round his Face:
His well-knit Nerves did Strength and Vigour ſhow,
Equal to Toils a Prince muſt undergo:
Erect his Gate, majeſtic was his Meen,
And when his God-like Form by all was ſeen,
A gen'ral Shout that rends the Heav'ns they give,
God ſave the King! Let him for ever live!
The ſacred Contract next the Prince is ſhown,
The Peoples ſureſt Safeguard and his own.
God and the fickle Crowd at firſt agree,
He pleas'd 'em with their lov'd Variety:
But ſoon the Sons of *Belial* weary grown,
Their Tribute murm'ring paid, or paid him none;
What they had rais'd, Why might they not dethrone?
God's Choice a fatal Diſappointment brings,
Their Worth o'relook'd, they'd fain have all been Kings.
Silent he ſtood, their factious Rage deſpis'd,
Which Time and ripening Fate without his Aim, chaſtis'd.

CXXIV.

# CXXIV.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. XI. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 13.

### *The War with* Nahaſh.

NOR long the Royal Virtue ſlumb'ring lay,
But did itſelf from ſecret Shades diſplay:
Fierce *Nahaſh*, like a Torrent, pours along,
By num'rous Nations formidably ſtrong;
From *Rabbah*'s Gates to *Jabeſh* Walls o'reflows,
But *Jabeſh* Walls too weak his Strength t' oppoſe:
A cruel Tribute by the Victor laid,
Muſt for inglorious Life be meanly paid;
They their right Hands, and dearer Eyes muſt give,
Sev'n Days allow'd 'em for a ſhort Reprieve,
To try if Earth or Heav'n wou'd them relieve.
Wo to the vanquiſh'd-- who a Meſſage ſent
To *Saul*, But how cou'd *Saul* their Fate prevent?
Th' unſettled King was weak, the Factions ſtrong,
And wou'd in fruitleſs Counſels time prolong,

Till

Till Action paſs'd and their ſhort Term expir'd:
The Monarch in his ruſtic Court retir'd,
Their Meſſage hears, with gen'rous Anger fir'd.
Like *Him* whom God did his Vicegerent chuſe,
He ſpeaks, and acts, and all the King indues:
(Thus from their Fields did the Great *Fabii* come,
To fix the Fate of all the World and *Rome*.)
His Royal Mandate ſent, the Tribes prepare,
With ſtrong united Force to meet the War;
And e're the Mornings purple dreſs'd the Skies,
Proud *Ammon*'s num'rous careleſs Hoſt ſurprize;
Diffus'd abroad, bury'd in Sleep and Wine;
But Sleep muſt now his ſofter ſway reſign
To his Twin-Brother Death--- How wide its reign?
How high its Throne on heaps of Subjects ſlain?

O why ſhou'd Man his Maker's Work deface,
Murder his Kind, deſtroy his God-like Race?
Why ſhou'd he lend his cruel Sword to Fate,
And mow the Flow'rs that have ſo ſhort a Date?
--But ſavage Beaſts, and Men muſt be ſubdu'd;
The Boar is juſtly thro' the Woods purſu'd,
And in his Blood the glitt'ring Spear embru'd.
For this of old High-Heav'n Commiſſion gave,
To Hero's--- 'Tis a glorious Work to ſave;

And

And ſmiling Mercy ſoon reſumes the Throne,
When Juſtice has its awful Buſineſs done:
The Brave alone have Courage to forgive,
When *Saul* with Conqueſt crown'd he bids his Rebels live.

## CXXV.

### 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XI. Ver. 15. Chap. XII.

*The Kingdom confirm'd to* Saul. Samuel *appeals to the People for his Integrity.*

AT *Gilgal* met, glad *Iſrael*'s publick Voice
Confirms their own, and Heav'ns unchanging Choice:
(---How many Loyal Converts makes ſucceſs!)
When *Samuel* thus-- Your Wiſh you now poſſeſs:
A King you ask'd with one united Cry,
Nor did I your concurring Votes deny:
Yet e're I to forgotten Shades repair,
And theſe gray Hairs, ſilver'd with Age and Care
To *Ramah*'s Fields, or to the Grave I bear;

To

To you, my once lov'd Charge, I here appeal,
From God, and God's anointed nought conceal!
What Ill you know, of *Samuel*, now reveal!
Whose Ox or Ass I've wrongfully possess'd,
If ever I for Bribes did Justice wrest,
Any defrauded, any have oppress'd?
If you with Truth and Justice cann't complain,
Why have you then cast off th' Almighty's Reign?
Can you his Pow'r suspect, his Love distrust,
His Truth arraign, Ingrateful! and Unjust!
Look up, and see his wrathful Terrors nigh,
His ruddy Vengeance gath'ring in the Sky!
He said, and gloomy Night the Air invades,
The forky Lightnings cross the fearful Shades:
Th' Almighty's angry Voice is heard from far,
The rolling Thunder gives the sign of War:
Huge Cataracts of Rain come pouring down,
As they'd the Lab'rers Hopes, and promis'd Harvest drown:
Agen he prays, and all agen is fair,
Hush'd are the chiding Winds, serene the Air:
Then thus goes on--- 'Tis not, you see, too late,
Sincere Repentance may avert your Fate.
With steddy Piety your God adore,
And vain and helpless Idols serve no more!
Forsake not him, nor will he you forsake,
Whom he his own peculiar Choice did make:

For me, forbid it Heav'n I e're ſhou'd ceaſe,
With fervent Vows to pray for *Iſrael*'s Peace!
But ſtill muſt plain ungrateful Truths declare,
My Country Love, but not its Vices ſpare;
Which if ſtill unreform'd, at length will bring
A Vengeance worthy Heav'n on you, and on your King.

## CXXVI.

### Jonathan *falls on the Outguards of the* Philiſtines. *Their Army routed.*

ENcamp'd at *Michmas* the *Philiſtians* lie,
Whoſe proud unnumber'd Fiſhes fill the Sky:
*Saul*, in far different State at *Gibeah* lay,
Each hour his heartleſs Army melt away,
Now ſcarce a Crowd, ſix hundred only ſtay
To guard their Prince, unarm'd and trembling theſe,
But no ſuch baſe unmanly Paſſions ſeize
Undaunted *Jonathan*; his Squire he takes,
And from the Camp a bold Excurſion makes,
To where ſecure th' uncircumcis'd remain'd,
And *Iſrael* both, and *Iſrael*'s God diſdain'd:

Two

Two craggy Rocks, *Bozez* and *Seneh* nam'd,
For this Event to after Ages fam'd
Their Outguards held, a narrow Paſs between,
Cut thro' the ſtubborn Stone was ſcarcely ſeen:
When from above the valiant Pair eſpy'd,
The Captain of the Guard inſulting cry'd:
Come up, ye *Hebrew* Slaves, and quickly meet
That Fate your Treaſons merit, at our Feet!
The Prince the welcom Omen underſtands
With Pain and Joy; upon their Knees and Hands
They clamber up the Hill, nor ſooner there,
But their dread Meſſage from high Heav'n declare:
In Heaps they fell, mow'd by the Prince's Sword,
And faithful *Abdon* glean'd behind his Lord:
Thoſe who eſcap'd, to their main Body fly,
And tell 'em all the *Hebrew* Hoſt was nigh:
Scarce had they ſpoke, when ſwifter than the Wind,
Behold the eager Victors preſs behind:
They ſtorm the Camp, where e're they reach, they kill,
And all with Terror and Diſtraction fill:
A panic Fear invades their Hoſt from God,
Trembled the conſcious Earth on which they trode:
Chariots, and Horſe, and Foot confounded fly,
And by *Philiſtian* Arms *Philiſtians* die:

This

This ſaw from *Gibeah*'s Hills the feeble Guard,
They ſaw them melt, the thickning Tumult heard:
Swift as before they fled, the Foes purſue,
Fell on their ſcatter'd Rear, and thouſands ſlew:
The Slaughter reach'd abhorr'd *Bethaven*'s Plain,
To *Canaan*'s Gods *Philiſtia* prays in vain;
Till Night did o're the Heavens her Wings diſplay,
And ſav'd the broken Reliques of the fatal Day.

---

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XIII. Ver. 23. Chap. XIV.

Chap. XIII. Ver. 3. *And* Jonathan *ſmote the gariſon of the* Philiſtines *that was in* Geba, *and the* Philiſtines *heard of it: and* Saul *blew the trumpet throughout all the land, ſaying, Let the* Hebrews *hear*, &c.

23. *And the gariſon of the* Philiſtines *went out to the paſſage of* Michmaſh.

Chap. XIV. Ver. 1. ----Jonathan *ſaid to his armour-bearer, Come, and let us go over to the* Philiſtines *gariſon, that is on the other ſide*, &c.

12. *And the men of the gariſon anſwered* Jonathan *and his armour-bearer, and ſaid, Come to us, and we will ſhew you a thing. And* Jonathan *ſaid to his armour-bearer, Come up after me; for the Lord hath delivered them into the hand of* Iſrael.

13. *And* Jonathan *climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armour-bearer after him: and they fell before* Jonathan, *&c.*

## CXXVII.

## Saul *wars with* Amalek, *ſpares* Agag, *who is hew'd in pieces by* Samuel.

YET one important Task for *Saul* remains,
To whom wiſe *Samuel* thus the Fates explains:

God, who did thee his Peoples Head appoint,
And by theſe Hands with holy Oyl anoint;
Forgets not treacherous *Amalek*'s Deſign,
When you from *Egypt* came, but ſays, Revenge is mine.
Go then--- againſt th' accurs'd, renew the War!
Whatever breaths deſtroy, and nothing ſpare!

The Monarch hears, and with a numerous Hoſt
Invades the *Amalekites* devoted Coaſt:
Diſpirited they faint, they fly, they yield,
With Blood the Town's deform'd, with Blood the Field.
In vain they yield, in vain for Mercy cry,
Their Doom is fix'd, the faithleſs Nation die.

Their

# CXXVII.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. XV. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 34.

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Chap. XV. Ver. 31. Samuel *turned again after* Saul, *and* Saul *worſhipped the Lord.*

32. *Then ſaid* Samuel, *Bring you hither to me* Agag *the king of the* Amalekites: *and* Agag *came unto him delicately. And* Agag *ſaid, Surely the bitterneſs of death is paſt.*

33. *And* Samuel *ſaid, As thy ſword hath made women childleſs, ſo ſhall thy mother be childleſs among women. And* Samuel *hewed* Agag *in pieces before the Lord in* Gilgal.

Their King alone, *AGAG* the *GREAT*, they
ſpare,
The goodlieſt Spoil, and Trophy of the War:
The flow'r of all the Flocks and Herds they ſave,
The Vile and Refuſe to the Slaughter gave.
When *Saul* the Prophet met, and thus he ſaid,
---At length have we th' Arrears of Vengeance
paid,
And have exactly Heav'ns commands obey'd:
From whence can then proceed, replies the Seer,
Theſe bleating, and theſe bellowing Sounds I hear:
The Choice of all the Cattel, *Saul* replies,
Our pious Warriors ſpar'd for Sacrifice;
*Agag* with theſe in golden Chains they bring,
To grace their Triumphs with a captive King.
When *Samuel* thus--- Does God Oblations need?
Tho' Hecatombs ſhou'd on his Altars bleed,
From a rebellious Hand, he'd all deſpiſe;
Obedience is the nobleſt Sacrifice.
'Tis in the Fates, thy Fate thou canſt not ſhun,
Thy cruel Mercy has thy ſelf undone.
Nor ſhall the ſanguine Tyrant ſcape--- he dies;
The guiltleſs Blood h' has ſhed, for Vengeance
cries.

He

He ſends-- ſecure of Death proud *Agag* came,
The ſame his haughty Mien, his Eyes the ſame,
His fierce black Eyes ſhot round indignant Flame:
Scarce ſeem'd to feel the Ground on which he trod,
Erect and comely, as a fanſi'd God:
When thus the Seer--- ſince all thy Acts defame
A King's belov'd, and fear'd paternal Name;
In Blood thy Hands, in Blood defil'd thy Throne,
That Fate which others ſhar'd, be now thy own:
He ſays, and God's all-righteous Doom fulfils,
The Victim's Life before his Altar ſpills:
See his black Blood through num'rous Channels flow,
And with a Groan his haughty Soul flies to the Shades below.

## CXXVIII.

### *Samuel* anoints *David.*

TO *Gibeah*, *Saul* ill-pleas'd and discontent,
And *Samuel* to his native *Ramah* went;
Never, ah never now to see him more!
Yet his well-natur'd Tears his Fate deplore.
When God-- How long wilt thou for *Saul* lament!
Himself has fix'd his Doom, nor will repent.
To *Ephratean Jesse*'s Fields repair,
Thy Horn with Oyl repleniſh'd with thee bear,
My People I'll provide a Captain there,
Amongst his Sons; to blind the Tyrant's Eyes,
A free-neck'd Heifer take for Sacrifice.
Arriv'd, their Elders trembled at his sight;
He *Jesse* did with all his Sons invite.
*Eliab*, his eldest Hope the first appears,
A tall young Man, in Life's most vigorous Years:
When *Samuel* to himself--- It must be he,
And sighing said--- a second *Saul* I see:
But God corrects the Prophet's hasty Choice,
And thus reproves with inward secret Voice;
Gaze not, intemp'rate, on his manly Face,
His tow'ring Stature, and majestic Grace!
'Tis God alone his secret Soul can see,
Deform'd with Pride, unfit for Royalty.

The

# CXXVIII.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XV. Ver. 34, 35. Chap. XVI. to Ver. 13.

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Chap. XVI. Ver. 11. Samuel *ſaid unto* Jeſſe, *Are here all thy children? And he ſaid, There remaineth yet the youngeſt, and behold he keepeth the ſheep.* *And* Samuel *ſaid unto* Jeſſe, *Send and fetch him: for we will not ſit down till he come hither.*

12. *And he ſent, and brought him in: Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord ſaid, Ariſe, anoint him: for this is he.*

13. *Then* Samuel *took the horn of oyl, and anointed him in the midſt of his brethren,* &c.

The brave *Abinadab* did *Jeſſe* bring,
Who, like his five fair Brothers, *look'd* a King;
Yet theſe rejected--- much the Seer admires,
If theſe were all his Sons, concern'd, requires:
One more there is, the youngeſt, who remains,
To feed and guard our Flocks on *Bethlehem*'s Plains:
With ſpeed they ſend, the lovely Youth appears,
What Sp'rit his Eyes, his Face what Beauty wears!
A Light divine around his Temples ſhed,
Not more the myſtic Drops adorn'd his Head,
Which now in a rich Circle round it ſhin'd;
So Heav'n commands, and ſtrait his gen'rous Mind
Still more exalted, calls to mighty Things,
To puniſh and to ſave, Atchievements worthy Kings.

## CXXIX.

### 1 Samuel, Chap. XVII. to Ver. 37.

### Goliah *challenges the Hoſt of* Iſrael. David *accepts the Combat.*

AGain *Philiſtia*'s Force together draws,
To vindicate their *Dagon*'s tott'ring Cauſe:
*Goliah*, they, their monſtrous Champion choſe,
His hideous Form like ſome huge Mountain roſe:
His ſhaggy Locks like ſhady Pines, that grow,
Loading the Mountain's ſide, and fright the Vale below:

A Mine of Braſs his mighty Limbs encas'd,
His knotty Spear like ſome fair Gally's Maſt;
A young tall Squire, tho' he a Dwarf appear,
When his proud Lord's enormous Bulk was near,
Did ſweating his bright Shield before him bear.
---Such was *Goliah*, ſuch his uſeleſs might,
With Terror round him caſt, and wild affright,
When challenging all *Iſrael* to the Fight.
Trembled their Hoſt when his vaſt Form appears,
And ſcarce his own remains ſecure from fears.
Young *David* only cou'd his Threats deſpiſe;
On more than mortal Strength his Hope relies:
Demands the Combat at the Royal Tent;
*Saul* prais'd his Valour, but he dreads th' Event:
When thus the wond'rous Youth---
" As I my Father's Flocks at *Bethlehem* fed,
A Bear and Lion by fierce hunger led,
Ramp'd o're the Fold, and ſnatch'd a Lamb away;
But from their Mouths I pluck'd the bleating Prey:
Furious they roſe their Booty to regain,
But by my faithful Sheep-hook both were ſlain:
That God who ſav'd from their devouring Jaws,
Will aid me in his own, and *Iſrael*'s Cauſe:
By me will humble this fell Monſter's Pride,
Who has his Armies and himſelf defy'd:
Like one of theſe ſhall that Blaſphemer be,
'Tis Heav'n alone that gives the Victory.

Go then, with Joy and Wonder, *Saul* reply'd,
Go, and ſince God inſpires thee, God will be thy Guide.

## CXXX.

### David *kills* Goliah. *The* Philiſtines *routed.*

THE valiant Youth in *Saul*'s bright Armour dreſs'd,
Is only with its cumbrous weight oppreſs'd,
And for the Battel does himſelf diveſt:
Nor other Arms he needs for his *Defence*,
But thoſe of Faith, of Pray'r and Innocence:
Yet to *offend* and quell his Country's Foes,
Five Stones he from the neighb'ring Valley choſe:
One Hand his Staff, a Sling his other held,
And thus equipp'd he marches to the Field:
O Shame of human Strength, and boaſted Might!
--But thus to cruſh the Proud is Heaven's Delight.
The *Gittite* with Diſdain the Youth ſurveys,
Great *Dagon!* ſuch a beardleſs Boy, he ſays,
Is this the Champion, theſe the Arms you bring
To Combat Men? A Staff, a Stone, a Sling!
Approach, raſh Boy, and die! ---for 'tis beneath
Our Fame, to move one Step to bring thee Death!

When

# CXXX.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XVII. from Ver. 37, to the End.



Ver. 50. David *prevailed over the* Philiſtine *with a ſling and with a ſtone, and ſmote the* Philiſtine *and ſlew him; but there was no ſword in the hand of* David.

51. *Therefore* David *ran, and ſtood upon the* Philiſtine *and took his ſword, and drew it out of the ſheath thereof, and ſlew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the* Philiſtines *ſaw their champion was dead, they fled.*

52. *And the men of* Iſrael *and of* Judah *aroſe and ſhouted, and purſued the* Philiſtines, *&c.*

When

When *David* thus-- (and see a Light divine,
Omen of Conquest round his Temple shine!)
Thou com'st to me with Sword and Shield, and Spear,
And all the glitt'ring Instruments of War:
But in the Name of Great *Jehovah*, I,
Whose Armies thou, Blasphemer! dar'd defie,
Descend to fight, secure of Victory:
Thy Host shall fall, and future Ages tell,
There is a God that reigns in *Israel*.

The Monster rag'd, and with a furious Look
He hastens on, the Ground beneath him shook:
More happy haste the Youth to meet him makes,
And from his Scrip the fatal Stone he takes,
Then with unerring Aim against him threw,
Wing'd with sure Death, and hizzing as it flew:
In his broad Forehead deeply plung'd it lay,
His crashing Scull to Life's chief Seat gave way:
He falls, his Armour clanks against the Ground,
And Blood and Brains crowd mingled thro' the Wound:
The Hero ran, and from the Champion's side,
Drew his broad Sword, in Slaughter often dy'd;
One Blow his Head did from the Trunk divide.
Swift fled the fore-skinn'd Army at the sight,
Vain, as their Boasts before, now was their Flight;

Shouted

Shouted the *Hebrew* Hoſt, their Foes purſue;
Wading through Blood, and countleſs Thouſands
slew:
Scarce cou'd the Walls of *Gath* and *Ekron* ſhield
From their victorious Swords the Reliques of the
Field.

## CXXXI.

### 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XVII. Ver. 57. Chap. XVIII. to Ver. 4.

### *The Friendſhip of* David *and* Jonathan. *A Digreſſion concerning Friendſhip.*

GHaſtly, and pale, and dropping putrid Gore,
His impious Mouth blaſpheming now no
more;
The Monſter's Head to *Saul* young *David* bore:
Scarce cou'd the conqu'ring Army bear the ſight;
The Hero ſcarcely cou'd ſupport its weight:
What loud Applauſe his Actions juſtly gain!
What Songs, recording his Ten thouſand ſlain!
Ev'n then the growing Seeds of Ill infeſt
With jealous Envy *Saul*'s malignant Breaſt:
The Fair commend the Youth, the Brave approv'd,
But matchleſs *Jonathan* admir'd and lov'd:

By

By ev'ry Word and graceful Action charm'd,
His princely Breaſt with ſacred Friendſhip warm'd:
Inſenſibly the kindly Ardor ſtole,
And wrought itſelf within his ſecret Soul:
He gave his Sword and Bow--- The Gift was poor,
His noble Heart was *David*'s all before.

What art thou, Friendſhip's now forgotten Name,
Who doſt with Heav'n ambitious Kindred claim?
No cold Acquaintance, no unhallow'd Fire,
By Intereſt fann'd, or kindled by Deſire:
Where both the *ſame*, no *Sympathy* is ſhown,
There's no *exchange* of *Souls* where *both* are *one*.

As Light, which claims the Sun its glorious Cauſe,
Its bleſs'd Effect our Joy and Wonder draws,
Yet ſcorns a narrow Definition's Laws;
So all admire thy Power; but what thou art,
We muſt not ask the Tongue, but ask the Heart.

How bleſs'd the Soul by thy kind Influence warm'd!
How many Miracles by thee perform'd!
How fondly Mortals of thy Loſs complain,
Thy Footſteps trace, and court thy Smiles in vain!
'Tis Virtue is the ſolid Baſe alone
Which, firmer than the Center, bears thy Throne:
When that is to its native Regions flown!

We

We thee unjuſtly hope, unjuſtly claim,
*Friendſhip*, when *Virtue's* gone, is but an *empty Name.*

## CXXXII.

### 1. SAMUEL, Chap. XVIII. from Ver. 8. to Ver. 11.

### Saul *envies* David, *and ſeeks to kill him.*

CAN hateful Envy, that uneaſie Gueſt
Of vulgar Souls, invade the Royal Breaſt,
And rob great *Saul* himſelf of Peace and Reſt?
It dar'd not till his heavenly Guards were fled,
And left the Charge of his devoted Head:
When from deep Hell that odious Fantom came,
And, like a ruddy Comet's boding Flame,
Swerv'd through th' Abyſs, to trembling *Gibeah* flew,
And enter'd, at the ſlumb'ring Monarch threw
Her beſt lov'd Snake, too well the way it knew:
Around his Heart in deadly Curls it twin'd,
Suck'd his beſt Blood, and Poyſon left behind:
His alter'd Eyes the ſecret Taint confeſs,
His ſtormy Brow, and ſallow Face no leſs:

While

While on his healing Harp young *David* plays,
And the black Humour's Rage in vain allays.

He ſung, how on the Clouds great *Michael* rode,
And led to War the valiant Sons of God:
Beneath whoſe Arms th' apoſtate Legions fell,
Who half unpeopled Heav'n, and crowded Hell:
The hideous noiſe affrighted *Chaos* made,
When *Lucifer's* vaſt Bulk did her black Waves invade,
Like ſome broad burning Iſland floating laid;
While round their Prince his vanquiſh'd Chiefs reſpire,
Into vex'd *Ether* ſpouting Seas of Fire:
What Sounds of Joy ran round the Victor Hoſt,
Who not their Courage, or their Conduct boaſt;
But God's high Praiſe employ'd the heav'nly Quire,
While each triumphant Seraph touch'd his tuneful Lyre.

Deaf to his Charms the gloomy King appears,
The Fiend that ſeiz'd his Breaſt, had clos'd his Ears:
With ſudden Rage thro' whizzing Air he threw
His beamy Spear, which quiver'd as it flew,
And ſought the Youth: ſome Angel who ſtood by
To hear, to learn his heav'nly Harmony

Diverts

Diverts the coming Death, it glanc'd aſide,
Th' impreſſive Force againſt the Cedar dy'd:
When from his Seat the royal Minſtrel fled,
And for the promis'd Crown preſerv'd his ſacred Head.

## CXXXIII.

### Merab *offer'd.* Michal *given to* David. *She preſerves his Life.*

THE fair *Ahinoam*, whoſe unſpotted Breaſt
Of every Grace and every Love poſſeſs'd,
Great *Saul* had with two beauteous Daughters bleſs'd.

*Merab* the firſt, of a Majeſtic Mien;
Conſcious of her high Birth, ſhe ſpoke and look'd a Queen:
*Michal*, the younger, milder Rays adorn;
Her Siſter like the midday-Sun, ſhe like the riſing Morn.
From *David*'s Arms the haughty *Merab* fled,
And head-long ran to wealthy *Adriel*'s Bed:
*Michal* the Youth with juſter Eyes ſurvey'd,
Nor unconcern'd he view'd the Royal Maid:

They

They love, yet wou'd in vain their Love conceal,
(For what their Lips deny'd, their Eyes reveal:)
Their Paſſion, Gratitude and Duty name,
Yet ſoon the Court perceiv'd their growing Flame:
From *Saul* not hid, who with malicious Joy
Improves th' Event the Hero to deſtroy:
No Joynture for his Daughter he requir'd,
Tho' ſhe by many a neighb'ring Prince deſir'd:
Not all bright *Ophir*'s Wealth by him was priz'd,
Like juſt Revenge upon th' uncircumcis'd:
A hundred Fore-skins of *Philiſtian* Knights,
Vanquiſh'd by him, and ſlain in ſingle Fights
Was all he ask'd; they'd prove an eaſie Prey,
*Goliah* had already ſhown the way.
Aroſe the Youth, fill'd with a noble Flame,
Kindled at once by Beauty and by Fame,
And like a Torrent on *Philiſtia* came:
Two hundred of their choiceſt Knights he ſlays,
And in full Tale the bloody Dowry pays:
Not *Aſhdod* more enrag'd, or *Gaza* mourn'd
Than *Saul*, when *David* with Succeſs return'd:
Yet can't the Royal Promiſe be deny'd,
The charming *Michal* ſoon is made his Bride.
----But his unnat'ral Father ſtill purſues,
His ſacred Life, his thirſt of Blood renews:

A Band of Ruffians round his Palace ſpread,
Which *Idumæan Doeg* curſing led,
A vaſt Reward to him, that brings the Traitor's Head:
But pious *Michal* thro' the conſcious Night,
Conveys her Lord, and give him time for Flight:
The murd'rous Guards with honeſt Fraud deceives:
A well-diſſembled Image only leaves:
Thus ſav'd the future Grace of *Iſrael*'s Throne,
And thus preſerv'd a Life far dearer than her own.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XVIII. from Ver. 17. to the End.

Ver. 17. Saul *ſaid to* David, *Behold, my elder daughter* Merab, *her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battel*, &c.

19. *But it came to paſs at the time when* Merab Saul's *daughter ſhould have been given to* David, *that ſhe was given to* Adriel *the* Meholathite *to wife.*

20. *And* Michal Saul's *daughter loved* David: *and they told* Saul, *and the thing pleaſed him.*

21. *And* Saul *ſaid, I will give him her, that ſhe may be a ſnare to him*, &c.

25. Saul *ſaid, Thus ſhall ye ſay to* David, *The king deſireth not any dowry; but an hundred fore-skins of the* Philiſtines, *to be avenged of the kings enemies.*

27. David *aroſe, and went, he and his men, and ſlew of the* Philiſtines *two hundred men*, &c.

# CXXXIV.

## Jonathan's *Covenant with* David.

AS *Sol*'s bright Beams malignant Vapours raiſe,
Which ſink again, and cloud Earth's dusky Face,
So ſicken'd *Saul* at *David*'s growing Praiſe:
Griev'd at his Virtue's Luſtre, and affraid,
Which did the Dimneſs of his own upbraid:
Still new Deſigns againſt his Life he forms,
At Earth and Heav'n, when diſappointed, ſtorms:
Yet ſtill his gen'rous Son unalter'd ſtood,
Not to be brib'd by Intereſt or by Blood:
O wond'rous Prince! who cou'dſt with eaſe fore-go,
Scepters and Crowns, and all Earth's empty ſhow;
Which Fools above their Souls admire and prize,
And whoſe falſe Splendor dazles ev'n the Wiſe.
---To thee thy perſecuted *David* flies;
When *Jonathan* he finds, no more diſtreſs'd,
He finds a ſafe Aſylum in thy Breaſt:
To his great Friend unboſoms all his Cares,
And he the unwieldy Burthen more than ſhares.

# CXXXIV.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XX. Ver. 35. to 38.

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Ver. 35. ---Jonathan *went out into the field at the time appointed with* David, *and a little lad with him.*

36. *And he ſaid unto his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I ſhoot. And as the lad ran, he ſhot an arrow beyond him.*

37. *And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which* Jonathan *had ſhot,* Jonathan *cried after the lad, and ſaid, Is not the arrow beyond thee?*

38. *And* Jonathan *cried after the lad, Make ſpeed, haſte, ſtay not. And* Jonathan's *lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his maſter.*

What have I done? *Jeſſides* thus begins;
Who my Accuſers are; and what my Sins,
That *Saul* with reſtleſs Rage my Life purſues:
If die I muſt, thy Hand I'd rather chuſe;
Thy friendly Sword, to pierce this faithful Breaſt,
And ſend my weary trembling Soul to reſt:
But do not (O thou canſt not!) me betray
To my inſulting Foes a guiltleſs Prey:
By Friendſhip's ſacred Laws I thee adjure,
And let the Oath of God our mutual Faith ſecure!

Can *David* think, the High-born Youth replys,
That I above a Friend, a Father prize?
If ought of Ill againſt thy Life deſign'd,
(But ſure it cannot be) I'll ſearch his Mind;
Witneſs th' Almighty Pow'r that guards his Throne,
The worſt ſhall to my noble Friend be ſhown:
The while go reſt ſecure at *Ezel's* Stone!
Thither, my Father ſounded, I'll repair,
My *Arrows* ſhall the ſilent Meſſage bear.

He ſaid, the Feaſt forbids the Princes ſtay,
And *David* to the Field renews his ſecret way.

## CXXXV.

### Saul *enquires for* David *at the Feast,* Jonathan *excuſes his abſence.* Saul *caſts his Javelin at him,* &c.

AND now from *Gibeah*'s Hills with Joy they view
The ſacred Moon her blunted Horns renew:
The feſtal Trumpets ſpread the Tidings round,
And *Gibeah*'s Hills return their ſilver Sound.
The numerous free-neck'd Herd with Garlands crown'd
Beneath the Sacrificer's Ax expire;
Then, part employ the Altars hallow'd Fire,
Part hiz on Spits, or vex'd with Flames beneath
Emitting Fume, in brazen Cauldron's ſeeth.
Next ſee the Tables ſpread, the hallow'd Fare
The Prieſts did with the Prince and People ſhare;
(For 'twas a Tale in after-days devis'd,
That for themſelves alone they ſacrific'd.)
The Monarch firſt, on his high Throne was plac'd,
A ſecond Seat by *Jonathan* was grac'd,
Brave *Abner* fill'd the Third, but by his ſide,
The place of *David* ſtill was unſupply'd:
Not unobſerv'd by *Saul*, whoſe jealous Eyes,
Had mark'd his abſence from the Sacrifice:

At length he of his Son the Cauſe enquir'd:
*David*, he anſwers, earneſtly deſir'd,
He to his native *Bethl'hem* might repair,
His Father's ſolemn Sacrifice to ſhare:
When pale with Rage the furious King replies,
(Defeated Malice ſparkling in his Eyes)
Falſe to thy ſelf and me! the Traitor dies!
That Rival of my Throne without delay
Produce, or thy falſe Head for his ſhall pay:
The faithful Prince pleads in his Friend's defence,
He pleads in vain his Truth and Innocence:
The Fiend had all the Father diſpoſſeſs'd,
And darts a Javelin at the Prince's Breaſt:
He roſe with Paſſion never known before,
And to his Friend th' unwelcom Tidings bore:
What was too big for Speech, his Arrows tell,
Then on each others Neck with Tears they fell.

O happy Pair! which ſhall I moſt commend,
And which the braver Man, the better Friend?
The Palm to *Jonathan* is juſtly due,
True to his Friend, againſt his Int'reſt true.
---Yes, O thou dearer than my ſelf to me!
A Crown's a Trifle when compar'd to thee.
Thus ſaid the Prince---- 'Tis thine by God's own Choice,
Confirm'd by *Iſrael*'s loud according Voice:

Thy

Thy Foes impeach thy ſteady Fate in vain,
Which ſtill moves on, nor will thy Friend complain,
Nor can I loſe a Crown, if *David* reign.
Next, and but next to thee ſhall I have place,
And thou ſhalt Kindneſs ſhew to all my Race.

Part of his pious Hopes by Heav'n were ſign'd,
But part, alas! were loſt, and ſcatter'd into Wind.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XX. Ver. 24. to the End.

Ver. 27. ---Saul *ſaid unto* Jonathan *his ſon, Wherefore cometh not the ſon of* Jeſſe *to meat, neither yeſterday, nor to day?*

28. *And* Jonathan *anſwered* Saul, David *earneſtly asked leave of me, to go to* Bethlehem:

30. *Then* Saul's *anger was kindled againſt* Jonathan, *and he ſaid unto him, Thou ſon of a perverſe rebellious woman,* &c.

32. Jonathan *anſwered* Saul *his father, and ſaid unto him, Wherefore ſhall he be ſlain? what hath he done?*

33. *And* Saul *caſt a javelin at him to ſmite him: whereby* Jonathan *knew that it was determined of his father to ſlay* David.

34. *So* Jonathan *aroſe from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the ſecond day of the month: for he was grieved for* David, *becauſe his father had done him ſhame,* &c.

## CXXXVI.

## Ahimelech *and the Priests at* Nob *accus'd and slain by* Doeg.

YET did th' orac'lous sacred Ephod shine
On just *Ahimelech* of *Eli*'s Line:
Faintly it shone, its faded Beams portend,
The things concerning him must soon have end:
A plain good Man, he wore no double Face;
True to his Friend, and Virtue in Disgrace:
To God's anointed true, yet always free
From Courtiers Craft, and servile Flattery.
At *Nobah* was his pleasant humble Seat,
A sacerdotal College and Retreat:
As *David* from the jealous Tyrant fled,
Hither by *Eli*'s Destiny he's led,
*Goliah*'s Sword receives, and hallow'd Bread:
*Doeg* of *Idumæan* Race was there,
Who did too near rough *Esau*'s nature share:
Salvage and brutish as the Herds he fed,
To *Carmel*'s Hill, or *Bashan*'s Pastures led:

As

# CXXXVI.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. XXII. from Ver. 9. to the End.

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Ver. 9. Doeg *the* Edomite, *(which was ſet over the ſervants of* Saul*) ſaid, I ſaw the ſon of* Jeſſe *coming to* Nob, *to* Ahimelech *the ſon of* Ahitub.

10. *And he enquired of the Lord for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the ſword of* Goliah *the* Philiſtine.

11. *Then the king ſent to call* Ahimelech *the prieſt, the ſon of* Ahitub, *and all his father's houſe, the prieſts that were in* Nob : *and they came all of them to the king*, &c.

18. *And the king ſaid to* Doeg, *Turn thou and fall upon the prieſts. And* Doeg *the* Edomite *turned, and he fell upon the prieſts, and ſlew on that day four-ſcore and five perſons that did wear a linen ephod.*

As

As now before the Oracle he ſtood,
The Hero and the Prieſt oblique he view'd
With Rage and barb'rous Joy, and Thirſt of Blood:
So glares the Felon-Wolf acroſs the Plain,
When faithful Dogs his hungry Rage reſtrain,
And howls and licks his frothy Jaws in vain;
Yet hopes at length to ſeize th' unguarded Prey.
Falſe *Doeg* ſo to *Gibeah* ſpeeds his way;
To furious *Saul* he brings th' unwelcom News,
Of *David*'s Flight, and does the Prieſt accuſe:
When for *Ahimelech* the Tyrant ſends,
Who ſoon with all his Father's Houſe attends:
In vain his Innocence wou'd ward the Blow,
He muſt be guilty, *Saul* wou'd have ſo:
Nor wou'd a ſingle Murther pleaſe; on all
The ſacred Prieſts he bids his Servants fall:
The generous Guards the hateful Work refuſe,
Rather than take *their* Lives, their *own* they'd loſe:
To *Doeg* next he turns, who pleas'd obeys,
The Prieſts unarm'd the valiant Murd'rer ſlays:
Their loud-tongu'd Wounds, emit a purple Flood,
Their holy Veſtments roll'd in Duſt and Blood:

Almoſt

Almoſt an Hecatomb reſign their Breath,
Compos'd the Guiltleſs fell, and ſmil'd on Death.
From thence, unſated ſtill, the Traitor flew
To trembling *Nob*, and all that breath'd he ſlew:
*Abiathar* alone eſcap'd the ſnare,
To *David* in the Deſart did repair,
And found a ſafe Retreat, and gen'rous welcom there.

## CXXXVII.

David *in the Cave of* Adullam. *He carries his Parents to* Moab. *Relieves* Keilah, *&c.*

THE while *Adullam*'s faithful Cave defends,
From *Saul*'s fierce Rage the Hero and his Friends:
Who-e're in Want, or Debt, or Diſcontent,
To *David* as their ſure Protector went:
Some few good Men his ſuff'ring Virtue drew,
To own his Cauſe, but thoſe were always few:

His

His aged Parents, now his weightieſt Care,
(He knew their Lives the Tyrant wou'd not ſpare,)
To *Moab*'s Realms, almoſt a Native there
His pious Duty brings, and Refuge found,
And quiet Seats, to *Judah*'s fertile Bound;
He with his faithful Servants takes his way,
And cloſe conceal'd in *Hareth*'s Foreſt lay:
But reſtleſs Fame upon her various Wings,
To his Retreat important Tidings brings:
That *Keilah* by *Philiſtian* Arms was preſs'd,
And all the forag'd Country round diſtreſs'd:
Nor this cou'd *David*'s lively Virtue bear,
Yet Heav'n conſults e're he begins the War:
Commiſſion'd thence his valiant Band he heads,
And not to Battel but to Conqueſt leads:
Invades th' Invader's Hoſt; part routed fly,
And part beneath the Victor's Swords they die:
*Keilah* reliev'd, and all the Spoil regain'd,
The Hero in th' ungrateful Town remain'd;
Who their Deliv'rer wou'd to *Saul* betray;
Their Embryo Treaſon, while it lurking lay
In its dark Cauſes, God to *David* ſhows;
To *Ziph* and woody *Hachilah* he goes,
But ſtill betray'd, his Haunts the Tyrant knew,
And did to *Maon*'s craggy Rocks purſue:
His doubtful Troops he in the Mountains found,
And with a num'rous Hoſt encompaſs'd round:

Safe

Safe in his Toils the trembling Prey he thought,
Nearer, and ſtill more near the Circle brought,
When ſee a panting Meſſenger appear,
Silent awhile he ſtood for Haſte and Fear:
At length with ſcarce recover'd Breath he ſaid,
" Great Sir! *Philiſtian* Troops the Land invade!
When *Saul*, the Tyrant left, the King indues,
And private Piques adjourn'd, the publick Foe purſues.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XXIII. to Ver. 14. 25. to 28.

Ver. 5. David *and his men went to* Keilah, *and fought with the* Philiſtines, *and brought away their cattel, and ſmote them with a great ſlaughter: ſo* David *ſaved the inhabitants of* Keilah.

12. *And* David *ſaid, O Lord God of* Iſrael, *Will the men of* Keilah *deliver me and my men into the hand of* Saul? *And the Lord ſaid, they will deliver thee up.*

14. *And* David *departed out of* Keilah, *and remained in a mountain in the wilderneſs of* Ziph: *and* Saul *ſought him every day*, &c.

27. *But there came a meſſenger unto* Saul, *ſaying, Haſte thee and come; for the* Philiſtines *have invaded the land.*

28. *Wherefore* Saul *returned from purſuing after* David, *and went againſt the* Philiſtines.

# CXXXVIII.

## Nabal's *churliſhneſs*: Abigail *wiſely pacifies* David.

UNhappy, who above the Vulgar born,
When two rich *Churls* oblig'd, and made their Scorn;
No *Worth* but *Wealth*, no *Shame* but *Want* they own,
*Pity* and *Gratitude* alike unknown.
No Mirth but Drunkenneſs; in Store unbleſs'd,
For half the Year they ſtarve to make one Miſer's Feaſt.

Such *Nabal* was, the Scandal and Diſgrace
Of *Judah*'s Line, and *Caleb*'s gen'rous Race.
On *Carmel*'s Fields, and *Maon*'s ſhady Rocks
He browz'd his Goats, and fed his num'rous Flocks.
To him the beauteous *Abigail* was ty'd,
In harſh unequal Bands, condemn'd his Bride;
Yet ſhe his Faults cou'd bear and cover too,
And liv'd as well as *Nabal*'s Wife cou'd do.

'Twas now the time when all his fleecy Train,
To recompence their Maſter's yearly Pain,
In bleating Droves forſook the verdant Plain;

Whom

# CXXXVIII.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XXV. from Ver. 2. to Ver. 42.

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Ver. 18. Abigail *took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five ſheep ready dreſſed, and five meaſures of parched corn, and an hundred cluſters of raiſins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on aſſes.*

23. *And when ſhe ſaw* David, *ſhe haſted, and lighted off the aſs, and bowed herſelf to the ground.*

27. *And ſaid, This bleſſing which thine handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord.*

Whom

Whom firſt the purging cryſtal Streams receive,
And then their woolly Robes they gladly leave:
The Day well-worn the ſweating Shearers reſt,
And at long Tables every ruſtic Gueſt
Sits down confus'd at *Nabal*'s crowded Feaſt:
A hundred Sheep in his own Paſtures fed,
With twenty Beeves from ranker *Baſhan* led,
Loaded his Boards; yet cou'd he nothing ſpare
For Heav'n, no Stranger was, or *Levite* there:
*David* in vain expects his Feaſt to ſhare;
Tho' while in *Maon*'s ſpatious Wild he ſtaid,
Nor Wolves, nor Robbers dar'd his Flocks invade.
*Nabal* well-warm'd with Taunts his Men receives,
And only Language like himſelf he gives.
Th' affronted Hero bids his Troops prepare,
They gird their Swords and haſten to the War.
What paſs'd, to prudent *Abigail* unknown,
Who from the drunken Feaſt retir'd alone.
(Happy her Sex, from Noiſe and Nonſence free,
In the calm Joys of ſober Piety!)
When by her Servants told, with haſte ſhe roſe,
And down the ſteep with kind Refreſhments goes,
T' appeaſe the angry Chief; ſurpriz'd they meet,
She kneels and throws herſelf at *David*'s Feet;
Then with ſoft Words, and artful Praiſes joyn'd,
Diſarm'd, at once, and pleas'd his gen'rous Mind;

He

He dropp'd his Sword, and with attention hung
On every charming Accent of her Tongue:
Her grateful Preſent ſmiling he receives,
And *Nabal*, churliſh *Nabal*'s ſelf forgives:
So wou'd not Heav'n, for ſoon by ſudden Death,
Th' unhoſpitable Wretch reſigns his Breath:
His Farms, his Flocks, his uſeleſs hoarded Store,
His Fields, his Vines, his ſpatious Grange, and more,
The beauteous *Abigail* compell'd he leaves,
Who Freedom by her Gaoler's Death receives;
And when a Widow's decent Tears ſhe'd ſhed,
Is, by a happy Change, preferr'd to *David*'s Bed.

## CXXXIX.

*The* Ziphites *diſcover* David *to* Saul. *He purſues him.* Abiſhai *takes his Spear*, &c.

THeir Treachery the *Ziphites* now repeat,
To *Saul* diſcov'ring *David*'s cloſe Retreat:
With Rage unquenchable the Tyrant roſe,
And from his Hoſt three thouſand Warriors choſe;
With theſe the Heav'n-protected Prince purſu'd,
Tir'd with the Chace, and faint for Thirſt of Blood:

He beat the Wild from Morn, till dewy Night
Surpriz'd him there, when from a Mountain's height,
By the Moon's friendly and officious Light,
The Hero his unguarded Camp ſurveys,
And thus to his attending Worthies ſays,
Is any here of Heart ſo firm, that dare
Honour and Danger with his Gen'ral ſhare,
And to yon Camp deſcend to view the Foes?
With Joy the bold *Abiſhai* with him goes;
Swerv'd from the craggy Rocks at length they found
The careleſs drowſy Guards diffus'd around;
Ev'n faithful *Abner* ſlept; they forward preſs'd
To where the weary King himſelf did reſt:
Fierce was his mien, and threatning as he lay,
His Thoughts recall'd the Labors of the Day.
Cloſe by his Head they ſaw his knotty Spear
Planted, in Earth, a Cruſe of Water near:
When thus *Zeruiah*'s Son--- the happy Hour
Is now arriv'd, thy Foe is in thy Pow'r;
This Hand, this Spear ſhall do the righteous Deed;
A ſecond Stroke the Tyrant ſhall not need:
In Act to ſtrike, ſee the fierce Warrior ſtand!
But gen'rous *David* ſtops his lifted Hand:
Forbid it Heav'n! thou ſhalt not him deſtroy,
Nor at ſo dear a Rate wou'd I a Crown enjoy:

The

# CXXXIX.

## 1 SAMUEL, Chap. XXVI. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 17.

275



Ver. 7. David *and* Abiſhai *came to the people by night, and behold* Saul *lay ſleeping within the trench, and his ſpear ſtuck in the ground at his bolſter: but* Abner *and the people lay round about him.*

8. *Then ſaid* Abiſhai *to* David, *God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me ſmite him, I pray thee, with the ſpear, even to the earth, at once, and I will not ſmite him the ſecond time.*

9. *And* David *ſaid to* Abiſhai, *Deſtroy him not: for who can ſtretch forth his hand againſt the Lord's anointed, and be guiltleſs?*

The Lord's Anointed's ſacred Life forbear!
He ſhall the common Fate of Mortals ſhare,
Or ſink by Heav'ns juſt Stroke, or fall in War.
Yet take the Spear and Cruſe, nor longer ſtay,
And to our Friends, for us, in Pain, convey!
They went, nor ſooner had their Camp regain'd,
*Saul*'s Army ſtill in heavy Sleep detain'd:
When from a diſtant Mountain *David* cry'd,
While to his Voice the ecchoing Vales reply'd;
Ho, *Abner!* --- Who with *Abner* may compare,
In *Iſrael* Chief, and Father of the War:
Where is the Gen'ral's Conduct and his Care?
One of the People came your Lord to ſlay;
Juſtly your Heads for your neglect ſhou'd pay.
Born from the Camp, behold the royal Spear!
Behold, untouch'd, the Cruſe of Water here!

His Father knew the Voice, confounded ſtood,
And thus he ſpoke, almoſt relaps'd to Good:

Virtue, like thine, Succeſs can never fail,
It riſes when oppreſs'd, and ſhall at laſt prevail.

## CXL.

### David *flies to* Achiſh. Saul *goes to the Witch of* Endor. Samuel *appears*, &c.

LEST *Saul*'s weak Virtue ſhou'd not long endure,
*David* with *Achiſh* does himſelf ſecure;
To whom the Royal Bounty *Ziklag* gives,
Where happy with his *Hebrew* Friends he lives:
Not ſo proud *Saul* on his uneaſie Throne,
Which totter'd, now its chief Support was gone:
Too well *Philiſtian* Lords his Weakneſs knew,
As *David he* of late, they *him* purſue:
To *Gilboah*, he a pow'rful Army draws,
Had but their Hearts been equal to their Cauſe;
But with his Crimes and haſtning Fate oppreſs'd
Their guilty Gen'ral's Fear infects the reſt:
Unwillingly to God he flies at laſt,
But 'twas too late, his Day of Mercy paſt:
Then deſp'rate thus-- Since Heav'n will not foretel
My Fate, 'tis time to ſeek Relief from Hell;
Almoſt defeated there, thoſe Wretches ſlain,
Who with accurſed Spir'ts did Leagues maintain,
(For God to *Moſes* gave not Laws in vain.)
As Fortun'd, one her Siſter-Hags ſurviv'd,
Who with her truſty Imp at *Endor* liv'd:

To her th' unhappy Monarch choſe to fly,
To know the worſt, and read his Deſtiny:
Diſguis'd he did the trembling Sage accoſt,
And bids her raiſe him *Samuel*'s awful Ghoſt:
With myſtic Characters a Circle made,
Low-mutt'ring dire forbidden Words ſhe ſaid,
And pow'rful Spells repeating, backward pray'd.
But whilſt her ſervile Fiends attempt to frame
Illuſive Shapes, the real *Samuel* came:
The Witch his God-like Form ſurvey'd, and knew,
'Twas more than all her boaſted Charms cou'd do:
She knew the bleſs'd beyond her magic Call,
'Tis *Samuel*'s ſelf, ſhe cry'd, and thou art *Saul!*
The Monarch ſaw, and knew the more than Man;
He bow'd to Earth, and *Samuel* thus began.

Unhappy Prince! Why, ev'n amongſt the Bleſs'd,
Haſt thou diſturb'd my Soul, and robb'd of Reſt?
When thus the King replies--- I'm ſore diſtreſs'd:
*Philiſtia* with unequal Force invades,
And from thy envy'd Reſt and peaceful Shades
Once more I call thee for thy ſage Advice,
Since God has left me, and no more replies.
If God himſelf thy Enemy is grown,
And to thy injur'd *David* gives thy Throne;
Agen the Prophet anſwers, Why too late
Am I diſturb'd to ſhew thy luckleſs Fate?

Thy

# CXL.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. XXVII. Ver. 1. to 6. Chap. XXVIII. Ver. 3. to 20.

279



Chap. XXVIII. Ver. 11. Saul *said, bring me up* Samuel.

12. *And when the woman saw* Samuel, *she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to* Saul, *saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art* Saul.

13. *And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto* Saul, *I saw gods ascending out of the earth.*

14. *And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And* Saul *perceived that it was* Samuel, *and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself,* &c.

Thy Diſobedience *Amalek* did ſpare,
What *Agag* miſs'd, thy ſelf art doom'd to ſhare.
---Prepare! againſt to morrow's Sun prepare!
*Iſrael* ſhall fall, and Thou and Thine ſhall be
Thin airy Ghoſts, and empty Shades like me.

The Prince, the diſmal Tidings can't ſuſtain,
But drops to Earth, at length reviv'd in vain;
Unhappy to awake and die with greater Pain.

## CXLI.

## 1 Samuel, Chap. XXIX. Ver. 1. and Chap. XXXI. to Ver. 4.

### *The Fight between* Iſrael *and the* Philiſtines *in* Gilboah. Saul *and* Jonathan *ſlain.*

AND now approach'd the *Great deciſive Day*,
And greedy *Death* hung *hov'ring* o're her *Prey*:
Nor more content with *mean* and *vulgar Fare*,
The *Fleſh* of *Kings* and *Captains* long'd to ſhare;
On *Gilboah*'s green Hills her *Table* ſpread,
In *Triumphs* thither the *crown'd Victims* led.
From *Aphek*'s Plain the *fore-skin'd Hoſt* aſcend,
The *circumcis'd* awhile the *Hill* defend;
Lodg'd on the *Cliff* an *Iron-Wall* they ſtood,
Floated the hollow Road with *Streams of Blood*;

Thro'

Thro' whoſe *warm Tide* the fierce *Aſſailants* wade,
And nearer theſe the *Hebrew* Foes invade;
Beneath their *ſerred Shields*, while *thoſe* from far
With *Darts* and *Stones* maintain a *miſſive War*:
The *Battel* hung, and neither ſide gave way,
Till *Achiſh* charg'd himſelf and turn'd the Day:
A *Show'r* of *feather'd Deaths* his *Guards* let fly;
At once their *Bow-ſtrings twang'd*, and fill'd the Sky:
As with red *Lightnings* forky *Shafts* o'rethrown,
Stretch'd on the *Turf* th' expiring *Hebrews* groan;
Almoſt as *ſwift* their *Foes* the *Paſſage* gain,
And to the *Hill deſcend* from *heaps* of *Slain*,
The reſt *oppoſe* or *flie*, alike in vain:
The *Brave* oppreſs'd with *Odds*, the *vulgar* find
Inglorious Death, their *Wounds* were all *behind*.
Such were not *Jonathan's*, unmov'd and great,
*His Hoſt* they might, but cou'd not *him* defeat:
He ſaw his *wounded Father's ſlow Retreat*,
He ſaw the *furious Guards* his *Life* purſue,
His precious Life to *ſhield*, himſelf he threw
*Before* their *Swords*; awhile he *ſtopp'd* their *Chace*,
*Calm* and *ſecure* of *Death*, yet *terrible* his *Face*.
*Hamgar*, the haughty Prince of *Aſhdod's* Town,
Firſt came too near his *Sword*, which *chin'd* him down;
Scarce cou'd the Wretch *blaſpheme*, ſo *ſwift* he fell,
His *faithleſs Soul* was in ſuch haſte for *Hell*.

Nor

Nor that *alone*, for ſoon the *Hero* ſends
To *wait* their *Lord*, an *Army* of his *Friends*:
The reſt *retire*, renew th' *Aſſault* from *far*,
Nor longer Hand to Hand wou'd *tempt* the *War*;
*Beſieg'd* the *Prince*, *unknowing* how to *yield*,
Tho' *Show'rs* of *Arrows clatter'd* round his *Shield*;
Tho' *Groves* of *Darts* his faithleſs *Armour* bor'd,
And *purple Streams* thro' ev'ry *Paſſage* pour'd.
" ---Thus far, my *Father*! *Jonathan* has done,
" Both what *became* a *Subject* and a *Son*.
" May *Heav'n preſerve*--- and *more* he wou'd have *ſaid*,
But *Life* thro' *wide* and *num'rous Portals* fled,
And *graſping* ſtill his *Sword*, he *falls* among the *Dead*.

*Leſs happy* Saul, whom now his *Foes* purſue,
And ſtill more *near* the *Royal Quarry* drew;
*Wounded* and *faint* he cou'd no longer *flie*,
Yet by *Philiſtian Hands* diſdain'd to die;
Behold his *own* his *fatal Sword* apply
To his *broad Breaſt*, which ſoon the *way* did find,
The *Hilt* on *Earth*, the *Point* appear'd *behind*:
While his *fierce Soul* to thoſe *ſad Manſions* fled,
Where *Tyrants* reign in *Wo* above the *vulgar Dead*.

CXLII.

# CXLII.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. I. from Ver. 1. to the End.

### David's *Elegy on* Saul *and* Jonathan.

A Round the Land th' amazing *Tidings* ſpred,
That *Iſrael's Hoſt* before the *Heathen* fled,
And *Saul*, and matchleſs *Jonathan* were *dead:*
*Jeſſides* heard, nor longer cou'd reſent
His *private Wrongs*; he *wept*, his *Robes* he *rent*,
His *feſtal Triumphs* into *Faſting* turn'd,
*Forgave* the *Tyrant*, and the *Father mourn'd.*
How did he then his *Jonathan* deplore!
His *Friend*, his *dearer ſelf* was now no *more:*
Thus did at length his *Loyal Paſſion* vent,
And thus his *Country's Loſs* in deathleſs Songs lament.

Thy *Glory*, Iſrael! and thy *Beauty* mourn!
'Tis *vaniſh'd*, never, never to *return.*
Ah! who in feeble Mortal's *Strength* wou'd truſt?
'Tis *fallen*, *fallen*, *fallen* to the *Duſt*!

O tell it not in *Gath's* triumphant Gate,
Nor in the Streets of *Aſhkalon* relate:

Leſt

Nor that *alone*, for ſoon the *Hero* ſends
To *wait* their *Lord*, an *Army* of his *Friends*:
The reſt *retire*, renew th' *Aſſault* from *far*,
Nor longer Hand to Hand wou'd *tempt* the *War*;
*Beſieg'd* the *Prince*, *unknowing* how to *yield*,
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Tho' *Groves* of *Darts* his faithleſs *Armour* bor'd,
And *purple Streams* thro' ev'ry *Paſſage* pour'd.
" ---Thus far, my *Father*! *Jonathan* has done,
" Both what *became* a *Subject* and a *Son*.
" May *Heav'n preſerve*--- and *more* he wou'd have *ſaid*,
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And ſtill more *near* the *Royal Quarry* drew;
*Wounded* and *faint* he cou'd no longer *flie*,
Yet by *Philiſtian Hands* diſdain'd to die;
Behold his *own* his *fatal Sword* apply
To his *broad Breaſt*, which ſoon the *way* did find,
The *Hilt* on *Earth*, the *Point* appear'd *behind*:
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'Tis *vaniſh'd*, never, never to *return.*
Ah! who in feeble Mortal's *Strength* wou'd truſt?
'Tis *fallen*, *fallen*, *fallen* to the *Duſt*!

O tell it not in *Gath's* triumphant Gate,
Nor in the Streets of *Aſhkalon* relate:

Leſt

Leſt *Capthor's Daughters* ſhou'd inſulting cry,
Their *Dagon* conquers him who rules the *Sky*.

O fatal *Gilboa*, where my *Friend* was *ſlain*:
No *Dew* on thee deſcend, or kindly *Rain!*
No *Corn* or *Wine* thy blaſted *Surface* yield,
*Accurs'd* and *burnt*, as *Sodom's* diſmal Field;
For there was *loſt* the *Warrior's* mighty *Shield*,
The *Shield* of *Saul* was loſt; his ſacred *Head*,
Tho' the bleſs'd *Oyl* around his *Temples* ſhed,
*Profan'd* and *mingled* with the *vulgar Dead*.

Thy *Bow*, my *Friend!* was never *drawn* in vain;
Thy *Arrows* drunk the *Blood* of *thouſands ſlain*.
What *Armies* fell by *Saul's* victorious *Sword*,
Too *faithful* now to to its *deſpairing Lord?*

*Princely* his *Stature*, *charming* was his *Air*:
With him alone cou'd *Jonathan* compare:
*Lovely* in *Life*, in *Death* too near ally'd,
Not *Death* itſelf their *Friendſhip* cou'd divide:
*Swifter* than *Eagles* cut their *airy way*,
*Stronger* than *Lions* when they ſeize the *Prey*.

Mourn all ye *Loves!* ye tender *Virgins* mourn!
Your flowry *Wreaths* to *Cypreſs Garlands* turn:
Mourn your lov'd *Monarch's* lamentable *Fate*,
On whom ſo oft your charming *Quire* did wait,
As he from *Fight* return'd in *Kingly State*:

For

For *you* he conquer'd; *you* did with him ſhare
The *Wealth* of *Peace* and glorious *Spoils* of *War*:
Lay by your *purple Robes* from *Sidon*'s ſhore,
And wear your ſplendid *Coronets* no more;
For *Saul* who gave 'em, *gen'rous Saul* is loſt,
And ſilent Shades receive his *mighty Ghoſt*.

How are the *Mighty faln*-- their *Strength* in vain!
O *Jonathan!* thou wert in *Battel* ſlain!
*Stretch'd* on cold *Earth*, thy *lifeleſs Limbs* as cold,
Nor thoſe *dear Eyes* muſt I agen behold.
O *Jonathan!* How ſhall I thee *commend!*
My more than *Brother*, and my more than *Friend!*
My *Life*, my *Jonathan!*--- And can we part?
I feel my *Loſs* hang *heavy* on my *Heart*.
With mortal *Anguiſh* is my *Soul* oppreſs'd,
I wear thy *bleeding Image* in my *Breaſt*.
Thy *Friendſhip* did the *tend'reſt Love* excel;
'Twas like *thy ſelf*, 'twas *all a Miracle*:
A pure, a conſtant, and a *heav'nly Fire*,
Beyond the *ſofter Sexes* frail *Deſire*.

How are the *Mighty faln*? Their *Fate* deplore!
Thy *Sword*, thy *Spear* and *Shield*, O *Iſrael!* are no more!

CXLIII.

## CXLIII.

### David *anointed King by the Tribe of* Judah. Iſhboſheth *made King by* Abner. Aſahel *ſlain.*

THus fell unhappy *Saul*, and in his ſtead
The *promis'd Crown* adorns young *David's Head*:
Brave *Abner* for a while reſiſts in vain,
*Divides*, but can't *prevent* his *fated Reign*:
Weak *Iſhboſheth*, who now, almoſt alone
*Surviv'd*, he plac'd on his *Great Father's Throne*:
*His Fame* did *Iſrael* to his Party bring,
And *Abner* rul'd, tho' *Iſhboſheth* was *King*:
But *Judah's* pow'rful *Tribe* for *David* ſtood,
Pleas'd with the *Choice* of *Heav'n* (and with their *Kindred-Blood.*)
Weary of *Peace*, at length the *Tribes* engage
In civil *Diſcord*, and *inteſtine* Rage.
*Abner*, th' *Aggreſſor*-- *he* to *Gibeon* went,
And *firſt* will *he* th' unequal War repent:
Fierce *Joab* hears with *Joy*; the *Guards* he heads,
And to *repel* the bold *Invader* leads:
Their *Out-guards* met, awhile *ſuſpended* ſtood,
And their *new Foes* with *ſullen Silence* view'd,
But ſoon in *Blood* their *thirſty Swords* embrew'd;

No

# CXLIII.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. II. from Ver. 19. to Ver. 23.

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Ver. 19, 20. Aſahel *purſued after* Abner, *and* Abner *looked behind him, and ſaid, Art thou* Aſahel? *And he anſwered, I am.*

22. *And* Abner *ſaid again to* Aſahel, *Turn thee aſide from following me: wherefore ſhould I ſmite thee to the ground!*

23. *Howbeit he refuſed to turn aſide: wherefore* Abner *with the hinder end of the ſpaar ſmote him under the fifth rib, that the ſpear came out behind him; and he fell down there, and died in the ſame place.*

No

No *Skill*, no *Fear*, no *Mercy* there, but *All*
The desp'rate *Champion's close*, and *mingled* fall.
Nor *these* cou'd *hungry Death* suffice, for they
But *Preludes* to the *Slaughter* of the *Day*:
The *Bodies* joyn, with *equal Fury* fir'd,
By turns each other *push'd*, by turns *retir'd*:
Till *Conquest* saw at last the *beck* of *Fate*,
And threw in *David's* Scale her *over-weight*.
Nor *Abner's* self his *tott'ring Host* cou'd stay,
Himself he's in the *Torrent* born away:
Yet *oft* he *stands*, for he *disdains* to *yield*,
And *heads* the scatter'd *Reliques* of the *Field*:
Thus, *press'd* with *Odds*, the *Lion* sow'rly flies,
And *glares* on his rash *Foes* with *Blood-shot Eyes*;
If any reach his *Paws*, the bold *Invader* dies.
Thus *forward Asahel* far'd, who *swift* as *Wind*,
*Pursu'd* and press'd the *Hero* close behind:
*Unarm'd* the *panting Warrior* ran, and *light*,
As hasting to a *Conquest*, not a *Fight*:
Ah, *heedless Boy*! the *gen'rous Abner* cry'd,
Turn from thy hast'ning *Fate*--- yet turn aside!
If thou thy *unflesh'd Valour* long to try,
*Single* a less *unequal* Enemy!
*Closer* he *plies*, and soon he hopes to share
The *Gen'ral's Spoils*, the noblest *Prize* of *War*:
Agen the *Hero* warns, --he *presses* on;
"'Tis in the *Fates*, thy *Fate* thou canst not shun,

Great

Great *Abner* ſighing ſaid—that 'tis not *Fear*
Which *warns* thee thus, learn from my *faithful Spear!*
Then *ſtruck*—to *Life's chief Seat* the way it found,
And *Blood* and *Soul* ruſh mingled thro' the *Wound.*
So falls the lovely *Lily*, Natures *Pride*,
When ruthleſs *Shares* its *Stem*, and beauteous *Head* divide.
The furious *Victors*, who *purſu'd* before,
Now *ſtand*, to ſee him *weltring* in his *Gore*;
While *Abner rallys* after his *Defeat*,
And mournful *Joab* ſounds a *late Retreat*:
All *Night* he march'd, the *Hoſt* to *Hebron* come,
And bear his *Brother's Corps* with *joyleſs Triumphs* home.

## CXLIV.

### 2 SAMUEL, Chap. III.

### *The Death of* Abner.

UNhappy that *weak Prince*, who *fear'd* by none,
But *dimly* ſhines on a *precarious Throne*:
Of *Foes* alike, and *pow'rful Friends* afraid,
*Aw'd* by thoſe *Idols* which himſelf has made:
A Truth by *Iſhboſheth* perceiv'd too *late*,
Whether it were his *Folly* or his *Fate*;

When *Abner* with *ambitious Paſſion* fir'd,
To beautious *Rizpah*'s Love and Bed aſpir'd;
Him, in her Heart a *Monarch*'s Place ſhe gave,
For hardly can the *Fair* deny the *Brave*:
This *Iſhboſheth* with *feeble Paſſion* heard,
*Half-frown'd*, and was as *angry* as he *dar'd*;
He thinks his *Father's Aſhes* were *profan'd*,
And ſoftly *Abner chid*, who his Reproof *diſdain'd*:
'Tis thus, ſaid he, *ungrateful* Princes ſlight
Thoſe *Services* they never can *requite*:
Did I both God's and *Judah*'s *Choice* diſown,
And fix thee on thy *Father*'s tott'ring *Throne*;
And am I for that *deſpicable thing*,
A *Woman*, faulted, by a *feeble King*?
--No-- 'tis too much: So *God and more* to me,
If I *confirm* not righteous Heav'ns *Decree*:
The *Son* of *Jeſſe*'s Title I'll maintain,
Who now from *Dan* ſhall to *Beerſheba* reign.

His *Threats* the *crouching Monarch* tamely hears,
Mute as the *Dead*, and ill conceals his *Fears*:
Not ſo th' affronted *Chief*, who ſoon is grown
For *David*'s *Cauſe* a Patron, and his *own*;
The Heads of *Tribes ſolicits* and prevails,
His *Weight* with eaſe inclines the *dubious Scales*:
None e're like *David* had their *Battels* fought,
He *talk'd* of *God*, but ſtill of *Rizpah thought*:

At length when all was *ripe*, to *Hebron* goes,
And did to *David* his *Deſign* diſcloſe:
The *League* is made, he *treated* and *careſs'd*,
And then *diſmiſs'd* with Thanks his *Princely Gueſt*:
Nor *Joab* this, who new from *Fight* return'd,
His ſlaughter'd *Brother*'s Fate he long had mourn'd,
And ſtill with deep *Revenge* he inly burn'd:
For *Abner* on his way advanc'd, he *ſends*,
They meet, *embrace*, and who were *greater Friends?*
Then *ſtabs* him to the *Heart*, and as he *fell*
*This*, *this*, he cries, for murder'd *Aſahel!*
Thus *Treachery* did *Treachery* purſue,
And thus a *Murderer* a haughty *Traitor* ſlew.

## CXLV.

### 2 Samuel, Chap. IV, V.

### Iſhboſheth *ſlain.* David *crown'd. The* Jebuſites *conquer'd, and the* Philiſtines.

'Tho' *Iſhboſheth* was *mov'd* when *Abner* ſlain,
To dear *Indiff'rence* he ſubſides again,
Is *all himſelf*, and *ſaunters* out his *Reign*:
With *Sloth*, the *meaneſt* Vice in *Kings*, oppreſs'd,
No *Cares* of *Empire* e're diſturb'd his *Reſt*:

The Day ran waſte, for *him* too ſoon it roſe,
He till *High-noon* indulg'd his lov'd *Repoſe*;
Till by falſe *Traitors* of his Life bereft,
*Aſleep* they *found* him, and *aſleep* they *left*;
Then *conſcious* of their *Guilt*, to *Hebron* fled,
And caſt at *David*'s Feet his *Rival*'s Head.
A vaſt *Reward* they hope for ſuch a *Prize*;
He, from the *ruthful Object* turns his *Eyes*;
The *Treaſon* and the *Traitors* both he *hates*,
And from his *Guards* they meet their righteous *Fates*.

And now, tho' late, the *Tribes* to *Hebron* came,
And *David King of all the Land* proclaim:
The *ſacred Contract* firmly ſworn, that none
Shou'd fail of *equal Juſtice* from the Throne:
Strong *Jebus* only ſtill his *Pow'r* defies,
On *Canaan*'s ancient *Idols* much relies,
More on its *lofty Tow'rs* that threat the Skies:
Nor this cou'd the *Jeſſean* Virtue bear,
But muſters all the *Tribes*, and heads the War:
The *Town* ſurrender'd ſoon, the *Citadel*,
Proud of its *Site*, do's their *Aſſaults* repel,
Who-e're their *Idols* cou'd, and *them* deſtroy,
For Life he ſhall the *Gen'ral*'s place enjoy:
This heard *Zerviah*'s *Son*, and *ſhoots* away,
Nor *Rocks*, nor *Darts*, nor *Men* his Courſe cou'd ſtay:

The *Battlements* he gains, and leaping down,
*Shouts* to his Friends without--- *The Fort's our own*;
Their ill-defended *Gates* are open thrown,
Enters the *Hebrew*-Army like a *Flood*,
While Heav'n is fill'd with *Shrieks*, and Earth with *Blood*.

Unwarn'd, their Fates *Philiſtine* Armies know,
And in ill Hour they tempt their *ancient Foe*.
The *Giant's Vale* their num'rous *Squadrons* ſpred,
And to the War their *Guardian Idols* led;
While *David* to the *ſacred Ephod* goes,
And waits for *Orders* to attack his Foes:
Theſe ſoon receiv'd, and of *Succeſs* ſecure,
Which Heav'n did to his *righteous Arms* aſſure,
With ſpeedy *Marches* at their Camp arrives,
And all before him unreſiſted *drives*:
That *David* ſtill his *Myriads ſlew* they find;
Some fled, but left their *captive Gods* behind;
Which with loud *Shouts* the *Victor-Hoſt* deſtroy;
Now *firſt* the *Wood* to ſome *good uſe* imploy,
They make their helpleſs *Trunks*, ſupply their *Fire of Joy*.

# CXLVI.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. VI. and 1 Chron. Chap XV.

David *prepares to bring the Ark to* Sion. Uzzah *ſmitten.* Obed-Edom *bleſs'd. The Ark carry'd by the* Levites. Michal's *Barrenneſs.*

REver'd and lov'd at *home*, *abroad* renoun'd,
Cover'd with *Laurels*, and with *Conqueſt* crown'd,
*Jeſſides* ſat, while to his *working Thought*,
Or *Fate*, or *Choice*, the *dear Remembrance* brought
Of God's bleſs'd *Ark*, which long, a *Pilgrim* grown,
Had ſojourn'd in a *Dwelling* not his own:
His *Heart* no *Eaſe*, no *Reſt* his *Eye-lids* found,
Till for its *Seat* he mark'd the *deſtin'd Ground*;
Fair *Sion's Holy Hill* the bleſs'd *abode*,
And peaceful *Manſion* for the *Ark of God*:
The *Flow'r* of all the *Tribes* conven'd attend,
Three *Myriads* they their Courſe to *Gibeah* bend;
And from thy Houſe, *Aminadab!* they bear
The *ſacred Pledge* with *inauſpicious Care*:
Two Sons, their aged Father's *Hopes* and *Pride*,
The *Carriage*, and the *bellowing Oxen* guide;
On *Lutes* and *Harps* the long *Proceſſion* play,
And *David* led the *Quire*, and led the way:
But ſoon their *Pomp* to ſilent *Sorrow* turn'd,
And *David griev'd*, and all th' Aſſembly *mourn'd*:

Not

The weari'd Oxen *ſtumbled* in the Road,
At *Nachon*'s Floor, and ſhook their *precious Load:*
Bold *Uzzah* ſaw, nor longer cou'd refrain,
But *touch'd* the *ſacred Ark* with Hands *profane:*
Nor this th' *offended Pow'r*, whoſe *Laws* he broke,
His *Raſhneſs* puniſh'd with a *mortal* Stroke;
He drop'd to *Earth* and with a *Groan* expir'd,
The *trembling Monarch* from the Place retir'd;
Which *Uzzah*'s *Name* to diſtant Ages bore;
The *trembling Monarch* dares attempt no more;
The *dreadful Ark* upon the Road he leaves,
Which *Obed-Edom*'s Houſe with *Joy* receives:
Three wexing Moons it with the *Gittite* ſtaid,
Whoſe *hoſpitable Kindneſs* not unpaid;
With all his *Houſhold* bleſs'd; when *David* heard
Reſuming *Courage*, he agen prepar'd
With Joy to bring it thence, but *warn'd* before
The *Levites* now the *ſacred Symbols* bore:
*Aſaph* and *Ethan* with ſweet *Heman* joyn,
To praiſe the *Goodneſs* and the *Pow'r* divine;
And ſtrongly *theſe* the *vocal Braſs* inſpire,
*Theſe* joyn their *Voices* to the tuneful *Lyre*,
The Monarch guides the *Dance* and guides the *Quire*,
With all his *active Strength* he play'd and ſung,
While *Sion*'s Walls with *Hallelujah*'s rung:
This *Michal* ſaw, *averſe*, with haughty Eyes,
And in her Heart his *meaneſs* did *deſpiſe*;
Nor wanted words *ſarcaſtic* and *profane*,
Which not *forgot*, nor *unreveng'd* remain;
Accurs'd with *Barrenneſs*, ſhe ne're cou'd claim,
Till Death had cloſ'd her Eyes, a *Mother*'s joyful Name.

# CXLVII.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. VIII. IX. X.

David *conquers* Moab, Zobah *and* Damaſcus; *ſhews Kindneſs to* Mephiboſheth; *ſends to condole with* Hanun *on his Father's Death: His Ambaſſadors abus'd*, &c.

Moab, and *Zobah*, and thy happy *Field*,
Fair *Darmeſek!* to conquering *David yield*:
Vaſt Sums his crowded *Treaſuries* amaſs,
Of Gold and Silver, and of *precious Braſs*:
For *Preſents* theſe, and theſe for *Spoils* they bring,
From *Hamath* ſome, and ſome from *Zobah*'s King:
To God who had his *Arms* with *Conqueſt* crown'd,
He gave the *Prey*, and deck'd his *Altars* round;
The reſt within the *Treaſury* they place,
Which muſt the *future Temple* build and grace:
Nor cou'd the Hero hope his *Gifts* alone,
And *pompous Piety* cou'd Heav'n attone;
An equal ſhare thoſe *human Virtues* claim,
*Juſtice*, and *Gratitude*, and *Friendſhip's* ſacred Name:
Tho' on the Throne ſublime, he cou'd not yet
His *other-ſelf*, his *Jonathan* forget:
The *Faults* of *Fortune* he reſolv'd to mend,
And for *Mephiboſheth* to *Court* did ſend,
To pay a *Debt* due from his *Father's Friend*:
He his *Paternal Fields* agen reſtor'd,
And plac'd him daily at his *regal Board*.

Nor

Nor cou'd ſo *gen'rous* and ſo *great* a *Mind*,
In his own *Court* or *Kingdom* reſt confin'd:
Ev'n *Ammon*'s *diſtant Fields* it reach'd, and ſent
To *Hanun* a *condoling Compliment*;
Whoſe *Father* once receiv'd with *Royal State*
That *exil'd Chief*, but now had *paid his Debt to Fate*:
The jealous Lords their *eaſie Prince* perſuade,
'Twas all *Deſign*, and he'd his Land *invade*:
Againſt the *Faith* and *Law* of *Nations* us'd
His *Embaſſie*, affronted and abus'd;
The Men to *Jericho* with *Shame* return'd,
Nor *David* this, who with juſt *Anger* burn'd;
*Joab* and all his Hoſt *Revenge* prepare,
Nor conſcious *Ammon* ſlow to *meet the War*:
Of *Zobah*, *Rehob*, *Iſrael*'s ancient Foes,
Their ſtrong *auxiliary* Troops compoſe;
Themſelves diſtinct, their *truſty Walls* were nigh,
If *worſted* in the *Fight*, and forc'd to *fly*;
The *Cherethites* undaunted *Joab* led,
Who never yet in *Battel* ſhrunk or fled,
The reſt did brave *Abiſhai*'s *Virtue* head:
When *Joab* thus--- If *Syrian Arms* prevail,
And *puſh* the *Guards*, tho' *never us'd to fail*,
You from *your Wing* ſhall ſpeedy *Succours* ſend,
As I to *yours*, if you to *Ammon bend*:
We for our *Hearths* and *Holy Altars* fight,
And *Piety* and *Nature* here unite:
Like Men let's *Conquer*, or like Men let's *die*,
And leave the *Event* to him who rules the *Sky*.
*Fir'd* with his *Words* his *Army* breaks away,
Nor for the *Trumpets* tardy *Signal* ſtay:
The *Syrians* to *ſuperior Virtue* yield,
Diſhearten'd *Ammon* ſees, and quits with ſhame the *Field*.

CXLVIII.

## CXLVIII.

### *David* and *Bathsheba.*

HOW *vain a Thing* is Man! the *Great* and *Brave*,
How often some *inferior Passions slave!*
Too *bad* the *best*, by *native Bent* inclin'd:
---O why was *Pow'r* bestow'd on *human kind*,
A *harmful Pow'r* to make themselves *unblest?*
---But vainly we with righteous *Heav'n* contest:
*Man* were not *Man* unless indulg'd *Free-will*,
And *uncontroll'd* in *Choice* of *Good* or *Ill.*
The *Mind* can no exteriour *Force* control,
When *Beauty* thro' the *Body* wounds the *Soul:*
Had *David* clos'd his *Eyes*, the fatal *Dart*
From *Bathsheba* had never reach'd his *Heart;*
*Vain* of her *Form*, tho' she th' *occasion* gave,
And *proud* to have a *Monarch* call'd her *Slave.*
That *Virtue* which so many *Storms* cou'd bear,
*Relax'd* with *Ease*, grew *sick* in *milder Air;*
Loose from his *Couch* with the *declining Sun*,
He rose, and *came*, and *saw*, and was *undone:*
Her *Bosom* the polluted *crystal* laves,
How wild a *Flame* shot upward from the *Waves?*
Th' *unguarded King* beheld, *review'd*, admir'd,
Th' *unknown* forbidden *Beauty* he desir'd,
He *blush'd* and trembled, and her *Name* enquir'd,
Which his *officious Courtiers* soon declare,
Her *Lord* detain'd in *Ammon's dubious War:*
Seduc'd with ease the *willing Prey* they bring,
His *Blot*, his *Shame*, his *Curse* to *Judah's* King:
In vain awhile their *lawless Loves* conceal'd,
First by th' *Effects*, and then the *Punishment* reveal'd.

# CXLVIII.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XI. to Ver. 5.

299



Ver. 2. *It came to paſs in an evening-tide, that* David *aroſe from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's houſe: and from the roof he ſaw a woman waſhing herſelf, and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.*

3. *And* David *ſent and enquired after the woman: and one ſaid, Is not this* Bathſheba *the daughter of* Eliam, *the wife of* Uriah *the* Hittite ?

4. *And* David *ſent meſſengers, and took her; and ſhe came unto him, and he lay with her.*

CXLIX.

## CXLIX.

### *The Death of* Uriah.

HOW *ſhort* the vain *Delight* that Sin procures!
How *long* the *Sting*, and *Shame*, and *Pain* endures!
From *Ill* to *Ill* our wand'ring *Nature* ſlides,
When *Piety*, no more, and *Virtue* guides:
To cloak *Adult'ry Murther* muſt ſucceed,
And by baſe *Treaſon* brave *Uriah* bleed;
Tho' *milder Methods* firſt the *Monarch* tries,
And wou'd in vain their *Guilt* and *Shame* Diſguiſe:
*Bathſhebah!* for thy *injur'd Lord* he ſends,
Who with *Diſpatches* from the *Camp* attends;
But with the *Pelethites* the *Guard* he kept,
Nor in his *violated Manſion* ſlept:
He ſcorn'd of *Eaſe* and ſoft *Repoſe* to taſte,
While in the *Fields* their *Nights* the *Army* paſs'd:
Tho' twice the *conſcious Monarch* vainly tries
To hide their *Shame*; the *golden Goblet* plies:
*Well-warm'd* the *Warrior* from his Preſence ſends,
And much of *Kindneſs* and of *Love* pretends:
The *Chief* perſiſts; how dear his *Firmneſs* coſt!
His Life by *Murther* and by *Treaſon* loſt:
He to the *Camp* the fatal *Letters* bears,
Which to the *Gen'ral David*'s Will declares:

Too

# CXLIX.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XI. from Ver. 14. to the End.



Ver. 14. David *wrote a letter to* Joab, *and ſent it by the hand of* Uriah.

15. *And he wrote in the letter, ſaying, Set ye* Uriah *in the fore-front of the hotteſt battel, and retire ye from him, that he may be ſmitten, and die.*

16. *And it came to paſs when* Joab *obſerved the city, that he aſſigned* Uriah *unto a place where he knew that valiant men were.*

17. *And the men of the city went out and fought with* Joab: *and there fell ſome of the people of the ſervants of* David, *and* Uriah *the* Hittite *died alſo.*

Too

Too ſoon *Zerviah*'s Son his *Prince* obeys,
With *Ammon*'s *Sword* the brave *Uriah* ſlays.
The *News* is brought, which *Ammiel*'s Daughter hears,
And pays awhile a Widow's *decent Tears*:
With *eaſie Grief* ſhe *mourns* her *Husband* dead,
But ſoon *reſumes* her *Robes*, and ſhares the *Monarch's Bed*.

## CL.

### Nathan *ſent to* David: *His Parable*, &c.

NOR this the *righteous Pow'r* enthron'd on high,
Above the ſpacious *Circle* of the *Sky*;
Who *weighs* in equal *Scales*, our *Crimes* and *Fates*,
And *Sin*, where e're he ſees, *abhors* and *hates*:
The rev'rend *Nathan* he to *David* ſent,
Who thus his *Wrath* diſclos'd, and warn'd him to *Repent*.

Two *Neighbours* in *one City* did reſide;
With all the *ſteeds* of *Life* was *one* ſupply'd,
Nor wanted Food for *Luxury* and *Pride*:
Of *Herds* and *Flocks* ſo num'rous was his Store,
*Baſhan* and *Carmel* hardly *paſtur'd* more;
Unlike the other, *indigent* and *poor*,

His

# CL.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XII. from Ver. 1. to the End.

303



Ver. 11. Nathan *ſaid unto* David, *Thus ſaith the Lord, Behold, I will raiſe up evil againſt thee out of thine own houſe, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he ſhall lie with thy wives in the ſight of this ſun.*

12. *For thou didſt it ſecretly: but I will do this thing before all* Iſrael, *and before the ſun.*

13. *And* David *ſaid unto* Nathan, *I have ſinned againſt the Lord. And* Nathan *ſaid unto* David, *The Lord alſo hath put away thy ſin; thou ſhalt not die*, &c.

His

His Stock in *helpless Children* only large,
How *unproportion'd* his *Estate* and *Charge*?
Yet *frugal*, he, and careful of the *main*,
*One Lamb* procur'd, in hopes at length to gain
Both *Milk* and *Wool* his Houshold to sustain:
With much of *Pains* 'twas nurs'd, and much of *Care*,
His *Meat* and *Drink* the *Favourite* must share;
His *Daughter's Ward*; thus caress'd by Day,
By *Night* within his careful *Arms* it lay:
As chanc'd one Ev'n a *Stranger* pass'd his *Door*,
Nor call'd (for *few make Visits to the Poor*;)
But to his *wealthy Neighbour* did repair,
In hopes of *splendid Entertainment* there:
The *niggard Churl* his *Flocks* and *Herds* to spare
Seiz'd his *poor Neighbour's Lamb*, and *kill'd*, and dreſt,
And thus at others Coſt he *treats* his *Gueſt*:
When *David*, thus with *Fury* in his *Eyes*,
*Fourfold* th' unpitying Wretch reſtores or *dies*:
With *alter'd Voice* agen the *Seer* began,
And thunder'd in his Ears--- *THOU ART THE MAN!*
Thus ſaith the Lord, 'Twas I thy *Life* did ſave,
And thee thy Maſter's *Wives* and *Kingdom* gave;
Why didſt thou then my *Laws* and me *deſpiſe*?
Behold, where poor *Uriah* murther'd lies,
By *Ammon's Sword* and *thine*, whoſe Blood for *Vengeance* cries;

His

His *Spoils*, as of thy *Foe* in *Battel* ſlain,
His beauteous *Wife* thou to thy ſelf haſt ta'ne:
Not unreveng'd, for *Plagues* on *Plagues* ſhall riſe
From thine *own Houſe*; thy *Wives* before thy *Eyes*,
Before this *Sun*, be by thy *Neighbour* known,
And ſpread thy wide *Diſhonour*, and their *own*:
This ſhalt thou for thy foul *Tranſgreſſion* bear,
Thus others warn, and thus *affronted Heav'n* repair.

## CLI.

### Amnon's *Rape of* Tamar. *He is ſlain by* Abſalom.

NOR was the *promis'd Vengeance* long delaid,
Th' *Arrears* of brave *Uriah's Ghoſt* unpaid:
See where it comes like a *reſiſtleſs Flood*,
And *Luſt* is plagu'd with *Luſt*, and *Blood* with *Blood*:
Fair *Tamar* kindles *Amnon's looſe Deſire*,
Who *forc'd* the *Royal Maid*, and quench'd his *lawleſs Fire*:
*Poſſeſs'd* of all he *wiſh'd*, he *hates* her more,
(The *Sexes wont*) than he *admir'd* before:
Nor this cou'd *Abſalom's great Heart* digeſt,
Tho' long he kept it *boyling* in his *Breaſt*:

Now *twice* the *Sun* had reach'd his *annual Goal*,
And view'd *new Stars* beneath each *diſtant Pole*;
Then in the *Lion* all his force diſplays,
And ſhoots *direct* on Earth his *burning Rays*:
The *fleecy Train* their *weight* cou'd hardly *bear*,
And *long* to pay their Maſter's *yearly Care*;
They and their *bleating Lambs* in Folds *compell'd*,
When *Abſalon* a *Feaſt* in *Hazor* held,
The *King* and *Court* invites; in vain he *preſs'd*,
His Father him *deny'd*, but kindly *bleſs'd*:
With more Succeſs he his *Deſire renews*,
When he for *Amnon* and his *Brethren* ſues:
*Chearful* they go, on *Regal Fare* they dine,
And crown the *plenteous Feaſt* with *noble Wine*.
Their Hoſt the *Signal* gave for *Amnon*'s Death,
His Servants in his *Breaſt* their *Poniards ſheath*:
*Life guſhes* out at many a *grieſly Wound*,
And mingled *Blood* and *Wine* diſtains the *Ground*:
The *Boards* are over-turn'd, the *Gueſts* are gone,
Look back, and think their *Brother's Fate* their *own*:
But *Fame* which always mingles *Truth* with *Lies*,
And ſtretch'd on *ſaily Wings* ſtill gathers as it flies,
*Prevents* their *Speed*, more *ſwift* than *Fear* it fled,
And told th' aſtoniſh'd King, that *all his Sons were dead*:
Swift to his *Heart* the frighted *Blood* repair'd,
And made a *ſtand* the *Fort* of *Life* to guard:

All

All *deadly pale* he from his *Throne* deſcends,
Stretch'd on *cold Earth* his *Royal Robes* he rends;
The ſame around his ſilent mournful *Friends*:
Wiſe *Jonadab* alone applies *Relief*,
Alone durſt *ſtem* the *Tide* of Royal Grief:
That *Amnon* only was for *Tamar* ſlain,
He *wou'd perſuade*, but *wou'd perſuade* in vain;
Till now the *Royal Company* appears,
At once *confirms*, at once *confutes* their Fears,
And with their mournful Father's mix their *Tears*;
While *Abſalon* to *Syrian Geſhur* fled,
And till his *Fate* was ripe, from *Juſtice* ſav'd his *Head*.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XIII.

Ver. 10. ---Tamar *took the cakes which ſhe had made, and brought them into the chamber to* Amnon *her brother.*

11. *And when ſhe had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and ſaid unto her, Come lie with me, my ſiſter.*

12. *And ſhe anſwer'd him, Nay, my brother, do not force me: for no ſuch thing ought to be done in* Iſrael; *do not thou this folly.*

14. *Howbeit, he would not hearken unto her voice: but being ſtronger than ſhe, forced her, and lay with her,* &c.

## CLII.

### Abſalon's *Return*: *He ſteals the Hearts of the People.*

EV'n *earthly Gods* when ſeated on the *Throne*,
*Compell'd* their frail *Mortality* muſt own;
Their *Counſels* oft they *change*; as oft by thoſe
*Abus'd*, on whom they *ſhine*, and *Faith* repoſe:
This *David* was by *dear Experience* taught,
When *Abſalon* he from *long Exile* brought:
Yet who cou'd *fondneſs* blame for ſuch a Son,
So *lov'd*, ſo *prais'd*, ſo *fair* as *Abſalon*?
A *manly Beauty* he, without a *Mole*,
(Ah, had he but enjoy'd as *fair* a *Soul!*)
Nor cou'd the *Raven's* gloſſy *Plumes* compare,
When *jetting* in the *Sun*, with his long *weight* of *Hair*:
To this the *Tempter's* ſelf had ſcarce a *Tongue*
More ſoftly *fil'd* than *his*, more *ſmoothly hung*;
*Form'd* to *deceive*; the *Art* of *Courts* he knew,
But more himſelf from *bounteous Nature* drew:
*Chariots* and *Horſe*, and *regal Pomp* aſſumes,
And *glitters* in his ſlighted Father's *Plumes*;
Nor needs he *thoſe*, a *Living Tide* came round,
Where e're he walk'd, and bore him from the *Ground*:

# CLII.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XIV. from Ver. 23, 25, 26. Chap. XV. to Ver. 6.

309



Chap. XV. Ver. 2. Abſalom *ſtood beſide the way of the gate: and it was ſo, that when any man that had a controverſie came to the king for judgment, then* Abſalom *called unto him, and ſaid, Of what city art thou? And he ſaid, Thy ſervant is of one of the tribes of* Iſrael.

3. *And* Abſalom *ſaid unto him, See, thy matters are good and right, but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.*

4. Abſalom *ſaid moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, and that every man which hath any ſuit or cauſe, might come unto me,* &c.

How lowly to the gazing *Rout* he bow'd,
For none can *ſeem* ſo *humble* as the *Proud?*
*Early* he roſe, ſo ill *Ambition* ſlept,
And in the *Gate* perpetual *Guard* he kept:
When any of the *Tribes* for *Juſtice* came
He ſounds his *Buſineſs*, his Abode, and Name,
And *Court-Delays* does *well-diſſembling* blame:
My Father to his *Harp* delights to ſing
The *Temple-Hymns*, too *pious* for a *King*:
The while the *Buſineſs* of the *State* forgot,
And *Law* alike, and *JUSTICE ſold* and *bought*.
Ah, had I, tho' *unworthy* ſuch a *Grace*,
On his *Tribunal*, but the *meaneſt Place*;
None juſtly ſhou'd with my *award* be griev'd,
None ſhou'd depart my *Preſence unreliev'd*.
When to the Royal Youth *Obeiſance* made,
Too much, my *Friend*, 'tis far too much he ſaid,
You muſt not thus to me yourſelf *debaſe*,
Then *ſtooping*, rears 'em with a *kind Embrace*,
Thus *ſteals* their *Hearts*; the King almoſt *alone*,
Robb'd of his Subjects, ſate on his *deſerted* Throne.

CLIII.

## CLIII.

### Abſalon's *Conſpiracy.* David's *Flight from* Jeruſalem. Huſhai's *Loyalty*, &c.

THE *Seeds of Treaſon* now grew *ripe* for *Birth*,
And raiſe their *baleful Heads* from *teeming Earth*;
Of *War* and *Bloodſhed* bode a *plenteous Crop*,
And hov'ring *Fiends* their bleeding *Quarry* hope:
Too long th' *Unnatural* thinks he *waits* in vain,
While his *hard Father* ſtill protracts his Reign:
The ſmall *Remains* of *Piety* he breaks,
And thus the *Hypocrite* his injur'd *Sire* beſpeaks:

With *Grief* and *Shame*, Great Sir! I call to mind,
The *Faults* of *Youth*, which none but one ſo *kind*,
Cou'd e're have *pardon'd*---- Then, when in *diſgrace*,
Deny'd the *Bliſs* to ſee a *Father's Face*;
Wandring in *foreign Fields*, a *Vow* I made,
Which, ah! too long has now remain'd *unpaid*;
That if my *Father's God* wou'd me reſtore
To his lov'd *Houſe*, I *there* wou'd him *adore*,
And with an *hundred Victims* die the ſacred *Floor*;

Yet since I've learnt, *Obedience* far out-vies
The richest *Gifts* and noblest *Sacrifice*,
My *Guilt*, and Heav'ns just *Wrath* I'll rather bear,
Than to my native *Hebron*'s Walls repair;
Till your *Commands* and *Blessing* I obtain:
Scarce cou'd the King from *Tears* of *Joy* refrain,
With kind *paternal* Love *embrac'd* and *kiss'd*,
And then the *Traitor* from his *Arms* dismiss'd:
To Royal *Hebron* he his *Progress* bends,
To all the *Tribes* his trusty *Spies* he sends.
When *thence* they heard from far the *Trumpets* sound,
The *Signal* 'twas that *Absalom* was *crown'd*,
And all must spread the *joyful News* around:
But none cou'd serve his *dark Designs* so well,
As thy *Serpentine Head*, Achitophel!
Th' *Oraculous Traitor* came, as Satan wise,
For darling *Mischief* left his *Sacrifice*:
From ev'ry Tribe *unnumber'd Thousands* run,
And *Hebron* crowd t' adore the *rising Sun*:
Suprizing Tidings they to *David* bring,
That *all was lost*, and *Absalom was King*:

*Salem* he leaves, his faithful *Guards* attend,
*Moiſten'd* with *Tears* they *Olivet* aſcend,
By Loyal *Huſhai* met, his Princes *ancient Friend*:
*Conſtrain'd* he ſtays, and him behind they leave,
With *honeſt Fraud* the *Traitor* to deceive;
Who now from *Hebron*-Hills came crowding down,
And enter with loud *Shouts* th' unguarded *ſacred Town.*

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XV. from Ver. 7. to the End.

Ver. 10. Abſalom *ſent ſpies throughout all the tribes of* Iſrael, *ſaying, As ſoon as ye hear the ſound of the trumpet, then ye ſhall ſay,* Abſalom *reigneth in* Hebron.

11. *And with* Abſalom *went two hundred men out of* Jeruſalem, *that were called, and they went in their ſimplicity, and they knew not any thing.*

13. *And there came a meſſenger to* David, *ſaying,* The *hearts of the men of* Iſrael *are after* Abſalom.

14. *And* David *ſaid unto all his ſervants that were with him at* Jeruſalem, *Ariſe, and let us flee; for we ſhall not elſe eſcape from* Abſalom: *make ſpeed to depart, leſt he overtake us ſuddenly, and bring evil upon us, and ſmite the city with the edge of the ſword,* &c.

## CLIV.

### Ziba's *Fraud.* Shimei *curſes* David. Achithophel's *Counſel overthrown by* Huſhai, *on which he hangs himſelf.*

FAlſe *Ziba*'s *Drove* the *Royal Exile* meet,
He *lights* and throws himſelf at *David*'s *Feet*;
A *Grant* by *fraudulent Suggeſtions* gains,
And from the *Crown* his *Maſter's Lands* obtains;
Some *ſmall Refreſhments* to his *Army* brings,
*Nor* Ziba *was the laſt that cheated Kings.*

Yet *harder Treatment* did the *Hero* find,
From black-mouth'd *Shimei*'s canker'd *Tongue* and *Mind*:
A *Wretch* he was of *Saul*'s *abandon'd Race*,
The *Soul of Spite and Envy* in his *Face*:
See where the *Felon* in the *Paſſage* ſtands,
His *Mouth* with *Curſes* fill'd, with *Stones* his *Hands*:
Avaunt thou *Fiend*, thou *Murtherer*, he cry'd!
Thy guilty *Hands* thy *Maſter's Blood* has dy'd;
By *Treaſon* didſt thou ſeize his vacant *Throne*,
The *Fate* he met is juſtly now thine *own*;
*Silent* th' afflicted Prince--- *Abiſhai* turn'd,
*Sparkled* his *Eyes*, his *Breaſt* with *anger* burn'd:

And

# CLIV.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. XVI. XVII. to Ver. 23.

315



Chap. XVI. Ver. 5. *When king* David *came to* Bahurim, *behold, thence came out a man of the family of the houſe of* Saul, *whoſe name was* Shimei, *the ſon of* Gera: *he came forth, and curſed ſtill as he came.*

6. *And he caſt ſtones at* David, *and at all the ſervants of king* David: *and all the people, and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.*

7. *And thus ſaid* Shimei *when he curſed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man of* Belial.

And

And ſhall this *ſnarling Wretch*, my Lord! he ſaid,
Blaſpheme the King! ---*Speak* but his *Doom*, he's *dead*,
I'll in a Moment fetch the *Traitor's Head*.

The *Royal Meekneſs* thus--- Let him Curſe on!
Since Heav'n *permits*, and *orders* all--- my *Son*,
*Part* of my *ſelf*, my *Soul*, my *Abſalon*
Into his envy'd Father's *Tears enquires*,
My *Crown* already ſeiz'd, my *Life* deſires:
*Loyal* to *him* this *Benjamite*, and mild,
Nor *uncommiſſion'd* has he me *revil'd*;
My *Virtues Tryal*, which if *firm* it prove,
May Heav'n, perhaps, at length to *Pity* move.

Thus *calmly bright* the *Hebrew* Monarch ſhew'd,
When *wading* thro' Afflictions gloomy *Cloud*;
While *Abſalom* a *ſhort-liv'd Meteor* glares,
And hides his tow'ring *Head* among the *Stars*:
*War*, *Plagues*, and *Death* his *ſanguine Streams* portend,
From *fetid Earth* exhal'd, on *Earth* muſt end:
He mounts at once his Father's *Bed* and *Throne*,
His rich *Seraglio* ſeiz'd, and made his own;
Thus did th' *abhorr'd Achithophel* adviſe;
Nor cou'd *imperfect Miſchief* him *ſuffice*,
The King himſelf his *Counſel* to *ſurprize*;

He

He ſues the wiſh'd *Employment* might be *his*,
The *Traitor* fears he ſhou'd the *Murther* miſs:
But *faithful Huſhai* call'd to this *debate*,
More pleas'd the *hot-brain'd Charioteer* of *State*:
The *Loyal Traitor* found his *weaker ſide*,
Did to his Ruin *honeſtly miſguide*,
Provok'd his youthful *Fire* and ſooth'd his *Pride*.
A *King* ſhou'd at his *Armies head* appear,
Revive his *Friends* and ſtrike his *Foes* with Fear:
Let him but *ſtamp* and ſhow his *Royal Will*,
All *Iſrael* ſoon he might with *Armies fill*:
From *Dan* they wou'd to old *Beerſheba* riſe,
As Clouds of *ſwarming Inſects duſk* the *Skies*;
Thro' all the *Tribes* th' affrighted King *purſue*
And *ſwallow*, as the *Sun* the *morning Dew*:
The *Motion* pleas'd, to *Huſhai* all incline,
For 'twas of God to *blaſt* their curs'd *Deſign*:
This ſaw *Achitophel*, and ſwoln with *Pride*,
Around his *Neck* th' *unhappy Nooſe* he ty'd,
*Suborn'd* his ſpeedy Fate, and *like* a *Traitor* di'd.

## CLV.

**David *met by* Barzillai *at* Mahanaim. *The Battel between his Servants and* Abſalon. Abſalon *ſlain by* Joab.**

WHat lately paſs'd in Council, *Huſhai* ſends
To *David*'s Camp, by two *confiding Friends:*
To *Mahanaim*, late a *Kingly Seat*,
O're *Jordan*'s *Floods* they make a *ſwift Retreat*;
By old *Barzillai* met---
With *Grief* at once, and *welcom* in his Eyes,
Whoſe *hoary Loyalty* their *Wants* ſupplies;
His *Wealth* and *correſponding Heart* ſo large
To *treat a King*, nor ſink beneath the Charge.
When *Tidings* came that with a *num'rous Hoſt*,
The *Rebels* had the *Streams* of *Jordan* croſs'd;
And like its *ſpreading Torrent* ſwoln with *Rain*,
With a *broad Front* came *ſweeping* o're the *Plain*.
The Monarch hears, tho' long with *Fortune preſs'd*;
He *rouz'd* the *Royal Virtue* in his *Breaſt*:
*Review'd* his *Army* and prepar'd for *Fight*,
Himſelf reſolv'd to try the *Rebel's might*:
Nor this his faithful *Friends*, who thus--- If all
Thy *Servants* ſhou'd in *heat* of *Battel* fall;
The *Rebels* wou'd *ſo mean* a *Prey* deſpiſe,
Their *Treaſon* at a *nobler Quarry* flies:

Myriads

# CLV.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. XVII. from Ver. 24. to the End. Chap. XVIII. to Ver. 18.

319



Chap. XVIII. Ver. 9. Abſalom *rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth, and the mule that was under him went away.*

14. *And* Joab *took three darts in his hand, and thruſt them through the heart of* Abſalom, *while he was yet alive in the midſt of the oak.*

15. *And ten young men that bare* Joab's *armour, compaſſed about, and ſmote* Abſalom, *and ſlew him.*

Myriads

Myriads of ours *the ſacred Life* out-weighs,
Who if within the *Town entrench'd* he *ſtays*,
If *preſs'd* with *Odds* before the *Foe* we *bend*
A *ſtrong Reſerve* to our *Relief* may ſend:
Compell'd he yields--Nor cou'd his *Royal Breaſt*
Tho' *injur'd*, *all the Father* yet *diveſt*;
O ſpare that *unadverting Youth*, he ſaid,
Whom *ill Advice* to this *raſh Action* led;
Neither by *Malice* wicked, nor *Deſign*,
Who e're attempts *his Life*, muſt aim at *mine*.
*Silent* the Generals hear his fond *Deſire*,
The *Father* praiſe, but not the *King* admire.

A *Wood* there was in *Ephraim*'s fruitful *Bound*
*Horrid* with ancient *Oaks* and *Shades* profound,
Of old for *Giants* terribly renown'd;
Tho' future *Times* with more of *Dread* relate,
The *Wonders* of this Day's *deciſive Fate*:
*Both Armies* meet beneath this *gloomy Glade*,
And *Darts* and *Arrows* make a *double Shade*:
How *rude* the *Shocks*, how obſtinate the *Fight!*
But *Fortune*, once, tho' *blind*, was in the *right*:
The *Cherethites* with *Joab* at their Head,
Like *Lightning* pierc'd the *Ranks*; the heartleſs *Rebels* fled;
Fled *Abſalon* as faſt as *Guilt* and *Fear*,
And his ſwift *Mule* cou'd him from *Battel* bear:

Thoſe

Thoſe *Miſts* fly off which late *obſcur'd* his *Sight*,
When flatt'ring *Fortune* conquer'd *Reaſon's* Light;
And *Nature* now to mind, and *Reaſon* brought
His *injur'd Father*, (how *ſevere* a *Thought!*)
How *kind*, how *good!* *almoſt* he did *Repent*,
But cou'd not now his haſt'ning *Fate* prevent.
Now all too late, his righteous *Doom* is paſt;
---As thro' the *Woods* he flies with luckleſs Haſte,
While the *deceitful Wind* does looſly bear,
The *flowing Honours* of his *fatal Hair*,
An *aged Oak* ſeiz'd and ſecur'd him there:
Swift as a *Shaft* from *Parthian Archer* ſped,
His *Mule* ſhoots on, and thro' the *Covert* fled:
With a *malicious Joy* fierce *Joab* hears,
And *graſping* in his Hand three *ponderous Spears*
*Pointed* with *Death*, unto the *Place* he flew,
And at the *Royal Youth* the *quiv'ring Weapons* threw:
To his ambitious *Heart* they found the way,
And let out lab'ring *Life*, and introduc'd the *Day*.
When thus the *Chief*--- If after this thou *live*,
Let *David thee* forgive, I'll *him* forgive:
An *Heap* of *Stones* they on the *Body* caſt,
His *Marble Column* now by Time defac'd,
His *Infamy* ſhall down to num'rous Ages laſt.

## CLVI.

**David *mourns for* Abſalom. *He returns to* Jeruſalem. Shimei *pardon'd.* Amaſa *ſlain.* Sheba's *Rebellion and Deſtruction.***

IN *Prime* of *Youth* thus *Talmai*'s *Nephew* fell,
And thus may *all* who dare like him *rebel!*
With true *paternal Grief* his *Father* hears,
*Retires* from publick *View*, and melts in *Tears*;
Then thus--- "O *Abſalom!* my Son! my Son!
"My dearer than my *Soul!* my *Abſalon!*
"Why is my *Grief* ſo *weak*, or why ſo *ſtrong!*
"Why muſt I ſtill a *weary Life* prolong!
"With how much *Joy* had I his Place ſupply'd,
"The *Son* had *liv'd* and *reign'd*, the hapleſs *Fa-*
"*ther di'd?*
The *Joys* of *Triumph* thus to *Tears* were turn'd,
The *ſympathizing Land* with *David* mourn'd:
Fierce *Joab* hears, and by his *Service bold*,
The *Truth* too *roughly* for a *Subject* told:
The King his *Grief* repreſs'd, he *dries* his *Tears*,
And in the *Gate* with *alter'd Face* appears:
To *Zadok* and *Ahimaaz* he ſends,
Who in the *worſt* of *Times* his faithful Friends,
By theſe and *Amaſa* the *Hearts* of *Judah bends*:

# CLVI.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. XVIII. XIX. and Chap. XX. to Ver. 22.

323



Chap. XX. Ver. 10. Amaſa *took no heed to the ſword that was in* Joab's *hand: ſo he ſmote him therewith in the fifth rib, and ſhed out his bowels to the ground, and ſtrook him not again, and he died.*

12. *And he wallowed in blood in the mids of the high-way: and when the man ſaw that all the people ſtood ſtill, he removed* Amaſa *out of the high-way into the field, and caſt a cloth upon him, when he ſaw that every one that came by him ſtood ſtill.*

22. *A woman went unto all the people in her wiſdom, and they cut off the head of* Sheba *the ſon of* Bichri, *and caſt it out to* Joab: *and he blew a trumpet,* &c.

At *Gilgal* their returning *Prince* they *meet*,
Ev'n *Shimei* comes, and *proſtrate* at his Feet;
For *Pardon* ſues, and does his Suit obtain,
By thee, *Zerviah's* Son! *oppos'd* in vain:
*Mephiboſheth* does *half* his *Lands* regain.
At *Jordan David* old *Barzillai* leaves,
And *Chimham* in his room to *Court* receives:
Thus *grateful Princes* ſmile on *worthy Deeds*,
And to the *Father's Grace* the *Son ſucceeds*:
Yet ſtill the *Relicks* of the *Storm* remain,
And bode a dreadful *Show'r* of *ſanguin Rain*.
While *Iſrael Judah* blames, that they alone
*Recall'd* the King, and fix'd him on his Throne.
Too ſoon the unlucky *Hint* falſe *Sheba* takes,
A *Trumpet* ſounds, and new *Rebellion* makes:
*Amaſa* now *commands* in *Joab's* ſtead,
And to purſue the *Rebels Judah* led;
Nor this *Zerviah's* cruel *Offſpring* bore,
But baſely *ſtabb'd*, as *Abner* long before,
And left the Gen'ral *weltring* in his *Gore*;
Then thro' the *Tribes* the Son of *Bichri* chas'd,
Who in ſtrong *Abel's* Walls his *Refuge* plac'd:
The *Royal Forces* ſoon the Town inveſt,
With vaſt *Machines* on ev'ry ſide 'tis preſt,
At length one *Woman's Prudence* ſaves the reſt:
Curs'd *Sheba's Head* did all their Faults attone,
See where 'tis o're the *lofty Turret* thrown:

*Deform'd*

*Deform'd* in *Death*, and dropping putrid *Gore*,
His *Mouth* can vomit *Treaſon* now no more:
*Joab* a *Trumpet* ſounds, the *Siege* to raiſe,
And to *Jeruſalem* in Peace the Hoſt conveys.

## CLVII.

### David's *laſt Words.*

AND now the not *unwelcom Hour* was come,
When Angels wait their *Brother Pſalmiſt* home:
For his lov'd *Harp* he calls, reſolv'd to *die*
As he had *liv'd*, in *Hymns* and *Harmony*:
His ready *Hand* runs o're the *vocal Strings*,
And thus inſtructive *Truths*, and God's high *Praiſe* he ſings.
"I feel the *ſacred Spirit* my *Breaſt* inſpire,
And guide my *Song*, and guide my tuneful *Lyre*:
'Tis God that *ſpeaks*, ye *Gods on Earth* give Ear,
The *Rock* of *Iſrael*'s awful *Precepts* hear!
You who with *Sovereign Sway* o're Men *preſide*,
Let *Piety* your Steps and *Juſtice* guide!
In *Goodneſs* like th' *All-High*, as well as *Pow'r*,
Whom for his Grace the *ſuppliant World* adore:
So ſhall your *Fame* appear *ſerenely bright*,
*Out-ſhine* the riſing *Sun*, and morning *Light*;

*Sweet* as the tender *Graſs*, and fragrant *Flow'rs*,
Call'd by the *Sun*, and rais'd by fruitful *Show'rs*.
Tho' otherwiſe for me juſt *Heav'n* ordain,
With *Crimes* my *Houſe*, with *Blood* deform'd my *Reign*,
Yet God's unfailing *Words* my *Hopes* ſecure,
For *like* himſelf his *Contract's* wiſe and ſure:
'Tis here I fix, nor ought beyond require,
All my *Salvation* 'tis, and all my Soul's *deſire*:
Not to thoſe *Sons of Belial*, who diſdain
*Jehova's* eaſie *Yoke* and gentle *Reign*;
The *Laws* of *Earth* and *Heav'n* at once withſtand,
And wound like *Thorns* th' unwary Toucher's *Hand*.
*Armour* of Proof, if you approach 'em, *wear*,
Or keep them at the *diſtance* of a *Spear!*
The *Blood* they ſhed will Heav'n at length require,
Their *Doom*, the dreadful *Lake* of *never-ending Fire*.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XXIII. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 7.

Ver. 1. *Now theſe be the laſt words of* David: David *the ſon of* Jeſſe *ſaid, and the man who was raiſed up on high, the anointed of the God of* Jacob, *and the ſweet pſalmiſt of* Iſrael, *ſaid,*

2. *The ſpirit of the Lord ſpake by me, and his word was in my tongue*, &c.

## CLVIII.

### David's *Worthies.*

NOR ſhall thoſe *Heroes* unrecorded paſs,
Well worthy *Marble Piles* and *Leaves* of *Braſs*,
By *David* oft in doubtful *Battel* try'd,
Who ne're for *Fear* or *Danger* left his *ſide*.
The *Tachmonite*--- His *eldeſt Captain* he,
*Firſt* of the mighty *Thirty*, and the *Three*;
His *Spear* he rais'd, which never rais'd in *vain*,
His ſingle *Force* whole *Armies* ſcarce ſuſtain;
Behold almoſt a *Thouſand* round him ſlain!
*Next*, and but *next*, Great *Eleazar* ſtood,
Whoſe *Sword* ſo oft had *drunk* Philiſtine *Blood*:
*One* of the *Three* with *David* at their Head,
Who when from *Caphthor*'s Offspring *Iſrael* fled,
Stood *firm*, and all their conqu'ring *Hoſt* defi'd,
And *humbled* ſoon their *mighty Fiſhes* Pride:
He *roſe*, he *ſmote*, he *foil'd*, he *laſh'd*, he *ſlew*,
And ſoon the bold *Purſuers* did *purſue*;
Till his *ſtrong Hand* no more his *Sword* cou'd *wield*,
He *mow'd* the bloody *Harveſt* of the *Field*.
Thus by his *Arm* the *God of Battles* fought,
And *Great Salvation* for his People wrought.
The *Heav'ns* with *Shouts*, their *Tents* with *Spoils* they fill,
'Twas all their *Work*, for *none* were left to *kill*.

*Shammah* the *Third*, from *Dammim*'s Fields renoun'd,
With *Conqueſt* and with deathleſs *Laurels* crown'd:
The fore-skinn'd Hoſt a *general Forage* made,
Like *Locuſts* they the *ripen'd Fields* invade;
*Fix'd* like a *Land-mark* in the *Path* he ſtands,
Nor *one* eſcapes with *Life* that *reach'd* his *Hands*:

Theſe *Three* above the reſt in *Strength* and *Fame*
To *David* in *Adullam*'s *Faſtneſs came*;
Fierce *Sirius* rag'd, the *Heav'ns* were all on *Flame*.
And *Beaſts* and *Men* refreſhing *Streams* deſire,
To *ſlake* their *Thirſt*, and *quench* their raging *Fire*.
*David* himſelf, tho' long his *Pain* compreſs'd,
*Gaſping* and *faint*, at length the *Man confeſs'd*;
(For *Heroes* too of *mortal Mold* are made,
And Nature's *Iron-Laws* by all obey'd.)
Then thus--- Our *common Bleſſings* we deſpiſe,
And only by their *Abſence* learn to *prize*:
O for a *Draught* of *Bethlem*'s *cryſtal Well*!
But 'tis in vain, and I'll my *Wiſh* repel!
This heard the *mighty Three*, to none they ſpoke,
But thro' *Philiſtia*'s num'rous *Army* broke,
Who lay encamp'd in *Bethlem*'s Avenue,
And fill'd the *Town*-- while *one* the *Water* drew,
His Fellows like a *Wall* before him ſtood,
And *ſlaughter'd* all around, and *dy'd* the *Streams* with *Blood*.

Then

# CLVIII.

## 2 SAMUEL, Chap. XXIII. from Ver. 7. to the End.

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Ver. 15. David *longed, and ſaid, Oh that one would give me drink of the well of* Bethlehem, *which is by the gate!*

16. *And the three mighty men brake through the hoſt of the* Philiſtines, *and drew water out of the well of* Bethlehem, *that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to* David: *nevertheleſs he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the Lord.*

17. *And he ſaid, Be it far from me, O Lord, that I ſhould do this; is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives?*

Then

Then from the *Paſs* their timerous *Foe* they drive,
As yielding *Clouds* which *Bolts* of *Thunder* rive;
And to their *Gen'ral* brought the far-fet *Prize*:
Forbid it Heav'n the *pious Chief* replies,
That what with *hazard of your Lives* you gain'd,
*Sacred* to *God*, ſhou'd be by me profan'd!
Thus with uplifted Hands *Jeſſides* ſaid,
Then on the Ground a pure *Libation* made.

Such Deeds can virtuous *Love of Praiſe* inſpire,
When *Souldiers* fight for *Honour*, not for *Hire*.
Nor muſt *Abiſhai's*, or *Benaiah's* Name,
Or, *Aſahel!* thine, be *unconſign'd* to *Fame*:
Nor ſhou'd the *reſt* which *ſacred Books* rehearſe,
But their unwonted *Sounds* refuſe the *Laws* of *Verſe*.

## CLIX.

### David *numbers the People. A Peſtilence ſent*, &c.

TOO happy *Iſrael* now, *debauch'd* with *Eaſe*,
Diſſolve in lazy *Luxury* and *Peace*:
When *Kings offend*, their ſinful *Lands* endure
Thoſe *Plagues* which their *united Crimes* procure.

Satan,

Satan, *commiſſion'd*, *David's* Heart aſſails,
To *Pride* he tempts the *Monarch* and prevails.
For *Joab* ſtrait he ſends, and bids him go
And *number* all the *Tribes*, reſolv'd his *Strength* to know.
His word *unwillingly* the *Chief* obey'd,
From *Dan* he to *Beerſheba's* Coaſts ſurvey'd,
Th' appointed *Ranſom* for their Souls *unpay'd*:
Th' *ungrateful Sacrilege* did Heav'n reſent,
And to the King with *heavy Tidings* ſent;
My *Three* dread *Scourges*, *Famine*, *Plague* and *War*
Are all propos'd, thou muſt for *one* prepare:
How *hard* a *Choice!* The Monarch how *diſtreſs'd!*
Yet with *repenting Tears* he choſe the *Beſt*:
Into the *Hands* of *God*, ſince *one* he muſt,
He choſe to *fall*, as *Merciful* as *Juſt*.
See the *deſtroying Angel* ſpeed away,
While *greedy Death* attends to ſeize her *Prey!*
His *Sword* of *pois'nous Exhalations* made,
*Red*, as a fatal *Comet's* flaming *Blade*,
High in *mid-Heav'n* he *brandiſh'd*, not in vain,
In three ſhort Days were *Seventy thouſand* ſlain.

And now o're fair *Jeruſalem* he ſtood
And ſhakes his *Sword*, which *thirſted* yet for *Blood*:
*Jeſſides* ſaw the *Miniſter* of *Fate*,
In *Act* to *ſtrike*, and but for *Orders* wait:

From

From *Olivet* he to *Moriah* ſtrode,
And in his *Hand* the dreadful *Sword of God:*
Low on the Ground he falls with *Sackcloth* ſpread,
His *Crown* laid by, and *Aſhes* on his *Head:*
On me, on me, *O righteous Heav'n!* let all
The threaten'd *Death*, and heavy *Vengeance* fall:
But ſpare theſe *Innocents*, nor let thy *Rage*
Wax hot againſt thy *Sheep*, thy *Heritage!*
'Twas I that *number'd*, I that *ſinn'd*-- 'tis I
Alone *deſerve*, alone *deſire* to die.
Mild *Pity* heard, and proſtrate at the *Throne*
Preſents his *Pray'rs*, and added of her *own:*
The Father *ſmiles* and *grants*; ſhe *ſhoots* away
And paſs'd the *Confines* of *eternal* Day,
On her own peaceful *Rain-bow* ſwerving down,
She ſtood confeſs'd above the *ſacred Town*,
Seiz'd the *Deſtroying-Angel's* flaming *Brand*,
*Seal'd* in its *Sheath*, and ſtopp'd his *lifted Hand*;
Then did to *raiſe* th' *afflicted Monarch* ſend
The Reverend *Gad*, his *Prophet* and his *Friend:*
In *Ornan's* Floor an *Altar* bids him rear,
To him who ſtopp'd the *hov'ring Vengeance* there.
'Tis done, the grateful *Odor* mounts the *Skies*,
And *heav'nly Fire* conſumes th' accepted *Sacrifice*.

CLIX.

# CLIX.

## 2 Samuel, Chap. XXIV. 1 Chron. Chap. XXI.



Chap. XXIV. Ver. 21. Araunah *said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And* David *said, To buy the threshing-floor of thee, to build an altar unto the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people.*

24. ---*So* David *bought the threshing-floor and the oxen, for fifty shekels of silver.*

25. *And* David *built there an altar unto the Lord, and offered burnt-offerings, and peace-offerings: so the Lord was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from* Israel.

## CLX.

## 1 KINGS, Chap. I, II.

### Adonijah *affects the Kingdom.* Solomon *anointed King.* Adonijah, Joab, *and* Shimei *slain,* &c.

BUT *Kings* as well as *Empires* have their *Date,*
And all muſt *yield* to *Time* and *Age* and *Fate:*
*Broken* with *Cares,* the Monarch now appears,
And ſinks beneath the Weight of *Seventy Years:*
*Languid* and Cold, *almoſt* a *Carcaſs* grown,
He lives by *Warmth* and *Vigour* not his *own:*
This *Adonijah* heard, fair *Haggith*'s Son,
In *Beauty* only *next* to *Abſalon:*
*Enſigns* of *Royalty* like him prepar'd,
High on his *Chariot* rais'd, and *circled* with a *Guard;*
*Abiathar* the *Pontiff* with him joyns,
And *Joab* aids in his *unjuſt Deſigns:*
By *Rogel*'s-Well he at *Zoheleth* ſtaid,
His *Brethren* call'd, a *Kingly Feaſt* he made;
But *Solomon* he left with *conſcious Fear,*
Nor *Zadok, Nathan,* or *Benaiah* there:
To *David, Bathſheba* and *Nathan* bring
The *Tidings* firſt, that he *aſſum'd* the *King:*

The

The Monarch rous'd, by *Iſrael*'s God he *ſwears*,
And *Solomon* his *Succeſſor* declares:
On his own *Royal Mule* he rides in State,
The *Guards* and *Council* him to *Gihon* wait:
The *ſacred Oyl* with Joy they thither bring,
*Anoint* him there, and ſhout--- *God ſave the King!*
The *hollow Vales* reſtor'd the diſtant *Sound*,
Shook *lofty Olivet*, and *ſhook* the *Ground*:
This to *Zoheleth*'s Stone the *Traitors* hear,
Vaniſh'd their *Mirth*, their Hearts diſſolv'd with *Fear*:
Their King *Himſelf*, and they their *King diſown*,
He quits his ſhort-liv'd *Reign*, and quits his *Throne*.
For Refuge he to God's *High-Altar* flies,
And ſues for *Life*, when *Solomon*, replies,
If *Loyal* he's *ſecure*, if *falſe* he *dies*:
In Peace he thence did to his *Houſe* retreat;
But ſoon the curs'd *Ambition* to be *Great*,
The *Royal Mercy* did, and his *Reſolves* defeat:
For *David* now to his *Fore-fathers* gon,
Agen he ſeeks by *Wiles* to mount the *Throne*:
To *ſtrengthen* thus his *Title*, ſeeks to wed,
The beauteous *Relict* of the *Royal Bed*:
Nor this young *Solomon*, whoſe piercing *Eyes*
The *Treaſon* ſaw, tho' *veil'd* in *Loves* diſguiſe,
And by *Benaiah*'s Hand his *Rival* dies:
Next *Joab*, vainly to God's *Altar* fled,
Who *Abner*'s *Blood*, and *Amaſa*'s had ſhed:

Juſt *Vengeance*, *ſure* tho' *ſlow*, did him purſue,
*Benaiah* there, the *hoary Murtherer* ſlew:
Nor *railing Shimei* ſcap'd, but *Kidron* croſs'd,
His *ſolemn Oath* he broke, his *Life* he loſt:
*Abiathar* with *milder Doom* depriv'd,
To his own *native Fields* confin'd he liv'd;
The righteous *Fate* of *Eli's Houſe* he bore,
And *Zadok* in his *Room*, great *Aaron's Ephod* wore.

## CLXI.

### Solomon *prays for Wiſdom. He decides the Caſe between the two Harlots.*

PLac'd on his Father's *Throne*, with pious Care
The Prince *adores* the *Pow'r* that fixt him there:
Ten *Hecatombs* to God at *Gibeon* paid;
And more, he *lov'd* him, and his *Laws* obey'd:
Bright *Signs* of *Peace* and *Grace* th' Almighty gave,
And bids him *make* his *Terms*, and *ask* and *have*:
When thus with humble *Heart* and *Voice* he ſaid,
(*New Bleſſings* ask'd, and *Thanks* for *Bleſſings* paid.)
My Father *David*, whom thy *Bounty* choſe,
Did not in vain on thee his *Hopes* repoſe;
His *Family* thy *promis'd Goodneſs* ſhare,
Nor wants his *Houſe*, nor wants his *Throne* an *Heir*.

Tho'

Tho' I *unfit* for that exalted *Stage*,
How *Young* at once in *Wiſdom* and in *Age* !
My *People num'rous*, and my *Kingdom* large,
And who is *equal* to ſo vaſt a *Charge* ?
O thou, the *King of Kings*, whoſe *Sov'reign ſway*
This *Earth*, and even the *Heav'n* of *Heav'ns* obey ;
Give *Knowledge* to diſcharge my weighty *Truſt* !
The *Art* of *Ruling* give, and make me *Wiſe* and *Juſt* !
Th' Almighty heard, and *pleas'd* with his *Deſire*,
Thus anſwers mild----
Since thou doſt neither *Length* of *Days* require,
*Revenge* nor *Riches* which the World admire ;
But rather *Wiſdom* ask, I'll give thee more
Than *Mortal* e're *ſhall* have, or e're enjoy'd *before* :
*Riches* and *Honour*, Regal *Pomp* and *State*,
I give thee undeſir'd for *over-weight* :
And if like *David* thou my *Laws* maintain,
I'll crown thee with a *long* and proſp'rous *Reign* :
He ſaid, nor was the *Sacred Word* in vain ;
To *Salem's* Royal *Town* the King returns,
And *Victims* ſlays, and hallow'd *Incenſe* burns :
When to his *Throne* two clam'rous *Women* came,
And *Juſtice* ! *Juſtice* ! both aloud *exclaim*.
An *Infant* in their Arms did each embrace,
*Breathleſs* was *one*, with pale and alter'd Face ;
The *Second*, warmth and vigorous *Life* confeſs'd,
And paid his *Nurſe* with *Smiles*, who claſp'd him to her *Breaſt* :

Both claim'd the *Living*, both the *Dead* deny'd,
No *Witneſs* but their *own* the King to guide:
What *mortal Wiſdom* cou'd the Caſe *decide*?
Awhile he *weighs* with deep *conſid'rate Thought*,
Then calls his *Guards*, and bids a *Sword* be brought;
In *equal Parts* the Child that did *ſurvive*
He bids *divide*, and *half* to either *give*:
The *ſpurious* Mother with th' *Award* content
His *Juſtice* prais'd, and gave her full *Conſent*:
Not ſo the *Genuin*, when the *Guards* prepare
To *execute* a *Sentence* ſo ſevere;
*Pale* as the lifeleſs *Corps* that near her lay,
And *cold* as *Death* ſhe cries and bids 'em ſtay:
Then to the King--- O let her *all* enjoy,
Rather than my *dear Infant* thus deſtroy!
---'Tis *finiſh'd*, the *ſagacious Prince* reply'd,
And *Nature* does herſelf the Cauſe *decide*;
The *Child* is *Hers*--- which ſhe with *Joy* receives,
With *Shame* her Rival the *Tribunal* leaves:
Th' *Aſſembly* ſhout, and Heav'ns *Indulgence* own,
Which plac'd ſo *Wiſe* a *King* on *David*'s vacant *Throne*.

# CLXI.

## 1 KINGS, Chap. III. from Ver. 16. to Ver. 27.

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Ver. 25. *And the king ſaid, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.*

26. *Then ſpake the woman whoſe the living child was, unto the king, (for her bowels yerned upon her ſon) and ſhe ſaid, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wiſe ſlay it: but the other ſaid, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.*

27. *Then the king anſwered and ſaid, Give her the living child, and in no wiſe ſlay it: ſhe is the mother thereof.*

## CLXII.

### Solomon's *Temple.*

THE Monarch now with *Peace* and *Plenty* bleſs'd,
For God on ev'ry ſide had giv'n him *Reſt*;
A lofty *Pile* of wondrous *Art* and *Charge*,
A *Temple* opulent, auguſt and large:
Whoſe *Majeſty* might ſome *Reſemblance* bear,
Of that dread *Pow'r* who fix'd his *Manſion* there,
On tall *Moriah*'s Mount reſolves to rear:
To *Tyrian Hiram*, his *Ally*, he ſends,
(*Hiram* and *David* had been *ancient Friends.*)
His Servants help he gains, for none ſo well
Cou'd *Timber* ſquare, or lofty *Cedars* fell:
To *Lebanon*'s fair *Forreſt* they repair,
His *Head* like barren *Calvary*'s they bare:
The *Sun*, a *Stranger* there, the *Ground* invades,
And drinks new *Dew*, and *drives* th' affrighted *Shades.*
To *Sidon*'s Shore, a long and dubious Road,
O're craggy *Rocks* they drag their *precious Load*;

To

To *Joppa*'s ancient *Haven* thence they bring,
Not *unrewarded* by the *Hebrew* King.
All things prepar'd, ſee the vaſt *Fabrick* riſe,
And from the *Center* haſten to the *Skies*;
In *three fair Stories* wrought, ſtately and tall,
*Marble* the *Columns*, *Marble* was the *Wall*:
The Houſe with *Cedar floor'd*, with *Cedar* lin'd,
And all with *flaming Gold* profuſely ſhin'd:
So richly carv'd that *Nature* owns, compel'd,
She here is by her *Hand-maid Art* excel'd.
But who th' *amazing Splendor* dares reveal,
Which *myſtic Veils* from *mortal Eyes* conceal?
Thoſe bright *Cherubic Forms* which guard the Place,
Thoſe *menial Angels* who attend and gaze!
---At ſafer diſtance from the *Throne* retire!
Thoſe wide and *everlaſting Gates* admire!
Thoſe *Pillars* which the *Pyramids* ſurpaſs;
The *Mould* how curious, and how rich the *Braſs*!
Behold yon *Sea*, which ſcarce admits a *Shore*,
And *Rivers* will receive, yet *thirſt* for more:
Rang'd on their *Baſes Ten* fair *Lavers* near,
On either ſide like *Inland Lakes* appear:

*Ten ſplendid Lamps* of *Ophir*'s Gold refin'd,
With pureſt *Oyl*, and native *Luſtre* ſhin'd.
Next ſee what ſpatious *Courts* the *Dome* ſurround,
With *Portico*'s, and fair *Piazza*'s crown'd!
The dreadful *Ark* the Prieſts and *Levites* bore,
To *ſettled Seats*, a *Wanderer* no more.
When all compleat, a *vaſt Aſſembly* came,
Drawn by their *Monarchs* and their *Temples* Fame:
The *Dedication* now their Care employs,
And *Iſrael*'s Sons in *feſtal Hymns* rejoyce:
Nor cou'd a *Thouſand Hecatombs* ſuffice,
The *bleating*, and the *bellowing Nation* dies,
Almoſt the *Species* falls a *Sacrifice*.
---See where the *pious Prince* himſelf expands,
Kneeling before the Throne his *ſpotleſs Hands*!
Loud *Inſtruments* and *Voices* fill the *Quire*,
Their *Praiſe* receiv'd, for lo! th' auſpicious *Fire*
Breaks from the *Oracle*, the *Prieſts* retire;
A *Preſent Deity* by all confeſs'd,
Trembling, their *Fathers God* they call, *adoring*, *bleſs'd*.

# CLXII.

## 1 KINGS, Chap. V, VI, VII. Ch. VIII. from Ver. 15. to the End. 2 CHRON. Chap. VII. to Ver. 3.

343



Chap. VIII. Ver. 22. Solomon *ſtood before the altar of the Lord, in the preſence of all the congregation of* Iſrael, *and ſpread forth his hands towards heaven:*

23. *And he ſaid, Lord God of* Iſrael, *there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath,* &c.

54. *And when he had made an end of praying all this prayer and ſupplication unto the Lord, he aroſe from before the altar of the Lord, from kneeling on his knees, with his hands ſpread up to heaven.*

55. *And he ſtood and bleſſed all the congregation of* Iſrael *with a loud voice,* &c.

## CLXIII.

*The Queen of* Sheba *visits* Solomon; *propounds Questions to him; makes Presents to him, and receives from him.*

ATtracted by the *Hebrew* Monarch's *Fame*,
Rich *Sheba's Queen* from bleſs'd *Arabia* came:
Prepar'd, as was the *Cuſtom* of her *Age*,
To prove his Skill with *Problems* Deep and Sage:
How ſplendid was her *Train*, how vaſt her Store?
What *Caravans* of Camels *Spices* bore,
What precious *Gems* and Heaps of ſhining *Ore?*
*Majeſtic* on his *Throne* ſhe ſaw him *crown'd*,
She ſaw his *Nobles* waiting ſilent round,
And ſtruck with *awe*, cou'd ſcarce her *Doubts* propound:
But when ſhe heard the Prince with eaſe explain,
What *Joktan's* Sons ſo oft had try'd in vain;
No *Trees* or *Shrubs* that on the *Mountains* grew,
No *Herbs* that drank the *Valley's* fragrant Dew,
But he their *Names* and various *Natures* knew;

When

# CLXIII.

## 1 KINGS, Chap. X. from Ver. 1. to to Ver. 14.

345



Ver. 1. *When the queen of* Sheba *heard of the fame of* Solomon, *concerning the name of the Lord, ſhe came to prove him with hard queſtions.*

2. *And ſhe came to* Jeruſalem *with a very great train, with camels that bare ſpices, and very much gold, and precious ſtones: and when ſhe was come to* Solomon, *ſhe communed with him of all that was in her heart.*

3. *And* Solomon *told her all her queſtions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not.*

When

When ſhe his *Throne* and *Table* did ſurvey,
His *Houſhold*, with their *Order* and *Array*;
The ſtately *Galleries* and broad *Aſcent*,
Which from the *Palace* to the *Temple* went;
She *cou'd no more*, *pleas'd* and at once *amaz'd*,
In *Extaſie* awhile, ſhe round her gaz'd:
Recov'ring, thus--- while I at *home* remain'd,
And in *Sabea*'s narrow Confines reign'd;
I *heard*, but ſcarce *believ'd* the Voice of *Fame*,
Which did your *Wiſdom* and your *Acts* proclaim:
Too *loud* I thought her then, but now her *Silence* blame:
My dazled Eyes, *Great Sir!* have ſeen far more,
Nor heard I *half of Solomon* before:
Almoſt beyond a *Mortal*, bleſs'd is he
Whoſe *daily Duty* to attend on thee;
Hear the lov'd *Accents* of thy *Voice* divine,
And ſee that *Face*, that heav'nly Face of *thine!*
Bleſs'd be the *Pow'r* that fix'd thee on the *Throne*,
To rule his *favourite People* and thy own;
Strict *Juſtice* to diſpenſe with equal Hand,
*Large* as thy *Soul*, and *wide* as thy *Command!*

She ſaid, then did a *Royal Preſent* make,
Worthy of *her* to *give*, and *him* to *take*;
Myrrh, Nard, Amomum, Frankincenſe ſhe brings,
And *Gold* that wou'd have ranſom'd *captive Kings*;
Which *Solomon* with *Princely Grace* receives,
And *more* of his own *Royal Bounty* gives:
What *cou'd he not*, when ſo *immenſe* his Store?
How vaſt the *Sums* which his proud *Navy* bore
From old *Tarteſſus*, and from *Ophir*'s Shore?
*Silver* and *Gold* o'reflow his happy Land,
As plenteous as the *Pebbles* on the *Sand*:
The *precious Metal* takes a *warlike Mould*,
His *Shields*, his pond'rous *Targets blaz'd* with *Gold*.
*Exotic Beaſts* and *Birds* augment his State,
Which human *Speech* or *Action* imitate;
See there the *mimic Ape*, for *Laughter* made,
While the proud *Peacock* near, her gaudy *Train* diſplaid!

CLXIV.

## CLXIV.

### Solomon's *Wives in his old Age ſeduce him to Idolatry.*

*Fatal Proſperity!* How *fond*, how *blind!*
Thou *ſweeteſt*, *deadlieſt Poiſon* to *Mankind!*
Unjuſtly we of *adverſe Fate* complain;
That has its *Thouſands ſav'd*, and thou *Ten thouſands ſlain:*
But, ah! when *Women* on thy ſide engage,
How *ſwift* the *Death*, how *ſtrong* the *Philtres* Rage!
What Potent *Kings*, what *Heroes* Great and Wiſe,
Have at thy *Altars* faln a *Sacrifice?*
But none like *Solomon* to future Times,
Tranſmit thy *Conqueſts* and tranſmit their *Crimes:*
Behold his *Wiſdom* ſunk, his *Luſtre* fade,
His *Glory* clouded in how deep a *Shade?*
A *thouſand Women* to his *Court* he brings,
(*Almoſt too many* for a *thouſand Kings!*)
They ſteal *his Scepter* while he drags *their Chain*,
And wears in *ſolid Sloth* a *ſhameful Reign:*

From

# CLXIV.

## 1 KINGS, Chap. XI. from Ver. 1. to Ver. 14.

349



Ver. 4. *It came to paſs when* Solomon *was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods.*

5. *And he went after* Aſhtoreth *the goddeſs of the* Zidonians, *and after* Milcom *the abomination of the* Ammonites.

6. *And* Solomon *did live in the ſight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did* David *his father.*

7. *Then did* Solomon *build an high place for* Chemoſh *the abomination of* Moab, *in the hill that is before* Jeruſalem; *and for* Molech *the abomination of the children of* Ammon.

From

From *various Nations* his *Seraglio* ſtor'd,
Their *mungril Faith* as *various Gods* ador'd:
Th' *uxorious King* to gain a *quiet Life*,
Almoſt a *diff'rent God* muſt ſerve for *ev'ry Wife*.
A *fair Sidonian* made him firſt decline,
And brought him to her own *Aſtarte*'s ſhrine;
With *Pharaoh*'s *Daughter* ſhe unites her *Claim*,
Th' *Egyptian ſacred Heifer* was the *ſame*:
To *Chemoſh* then he bow'd his *hoary Head*,
By *Moabitiſh Charms* to Ruin led:
At *Moloch*'s ſanguine Altar next he's ſeen,
To pleaſe his beauteous *Ammonitiſh* Queen:
God's *ſacred Temple* now neglected lies,
No *Incenſe* there, no *Pray'rs*, or *Sacrifice*:
On either ſide his *pow'rful Rivals* grown,
The *Demons* as of *old*, *inſult* his *Throne*.
Was it for this, for this he *twice* appear'd
To *Solomon*, when his *dreadful Voice* he heard?
What *Bleſſings* promis'd to his pious Care?
How ſtrictly charg'd of *Idols* to beware?
But all in vain; he's *loſt*, his *Heart* is gone,
He and his Kingdom *ruin'd* and *undone*;
For his *Ingratitude* and *Folly* curs'd,
New Foes are rais'd, and *Hadad* is the *Firſt*:

Fierce